

2024 -- H 7775

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LC005292
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$180,000 FOR THE RHODE ISLAND STATE
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AND ITS THREE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Introduced By: Representatives Chippendale, Casimiro, Finkelman, Place, Roberts, Rea,
Nardone, Vella-Wilkinson, Edwards, and J. Brien

Date Introduced: February 28, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, In 1944, the Rhode Island Legislature established conservation districts in
2 order to direct programs to protect local renewable natural resources for the benefit of Rhode
3 Island and its people; and

4 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island State Conservation Committee was established as an
5 agency within the RI Department of Environmental Management, and consists of three
6 conservation districts, Eastern, Northern and Southern; and

7 WHEREAS, The three conservation districts main program areas are farmland viability,
8 farm conservation plans, water quality protection and environmental education and
9 landowner/producer outreach. In addition, the districts provide technical assistance and guidance
10 in myriad areas including wildfire outreach, prevention and planning; and

11 WHEREAS, A portion of the Conservation Committee's needed funding is derived
12 through the support and opportunities for "matching grants" which provide additional funding
13 necessary to continue fulfilling and sustaining the conservation of land and natural resources for
14 the benefit of all Rhode Islanders; and

15 WHEREAS, Funding is essential for the continuation of the Conservation Committee's
16 efforts, including the \$180,000 per year that would restore the budget required, but not provided
17 since 2006, to continue these essential services; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
19 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2023-2024, the sum of one hundred eighty thousand

1 dollars (\$180,000) for the Rhode Island State Conservation Committee and its three Conservation
2 Districts to be distributed as follows, thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to the Rhode Island State
3 Conservation Committee, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the Northern Rhode Island
4 Conservation District, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the Southern Rhode Island
5 Conservation District, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the Eastern Rhode Island
6 Conservation District; and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders
7 upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, upon receipt of properly authenticated
8 vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$180,000 FOR THE RHODE ISLAND STATE
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AND ITS THREE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$180,000 to the RI State
- 2 Conservation Committee and its three Conservation Districts.

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