

2014 -- H 7204

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LC003581  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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JOINT RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION  
TO HAVE RHODE ISLAND DECLARED A "PROMISE ZONE"

Introduced By: Representatives Marshall, Costantino, Gallison, Casey, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: January 28, 2014

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, While Rhode Island's economy is starting to show some growth and  
2 recovery from the financial and economic crisis that our country has faced, it continues to rank  
3 highest in the nation for unemployment. A real economic recovery is not possible without  
4 meaningful and effective action; and

5           WHEREAS, Promise Zones are proposed areas in our country that have significant  
6 poverty, continued high unemployment, a high rate of home foreclosures, or economic distress;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, Designation as a Promise Zone is the first step towards eligibility for  
9 businesses to receive various federal tax credits to hire and invest in our state; and

10          WHEREAS, This new type of Zone designation dramatically broadens opportunities for  
11 both existing businesses and new business, and for continued job creation: and

12          WHEREAS, In addition, these tax credit opportunities can provide assistance with  
13 funding new capital investments in both the short and long-term for businesses, and in helping to  
14 create job development; and

15          WHEREAS, Rhode Island's total recovery from this economic crisis will not happen  
16 overnight, but recognizing, initiating, and establishing the necessary steps towards long-term  
17 solutions is essential; now, therefore be it

18          RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence  
19 Plantations hereby respectfully requests our state's Congressional Delegation to initiate and

1 pursue all efforts to have Rhode Island declared a "Promise Zone"; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby requests the Rhode Island Commerce  
3 Corporation to apply to HUD and the United States Department of Agriculture for certification as  
4 a Federal Urban Promise Zone; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
6 transmit a duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, members  
7 of Rhode Island's Congressional Delegation, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the  
8 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the Director of the Rhode Island  
9 Commerce Corporation.

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