WHEREAS, Actively managing forests can actually help restore ecosystem health, improve habitat quality and reduce severe fire risks; and

WHEREAS, Accurately diagnosing and managing these forest health threats is the first step to protecting forests from harm ensuring they will grow into the future; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created consisting of twelve (12) members: two (2) of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, not more than one from the same political party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Director of the RI Department of Environmental Management, or designee; one of whom shall be the Director of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island State Association of Fire Fighters, or designee; one of whom shall be a member of the Forest Conservation Commission, to be appointed by the Director of the RI Department of Environmental Management; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Land Trust Council, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc., or designee; one of whom shall be the former Rhode Island Chief of Forestry, or designee; one of whom shall be a member of the Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and one of whom shall be the State Director of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), or designee.
In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a legislative study
commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly resolution, the appointing
authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu of a legislator; provided
that, the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which is entitled to the
appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

The purpose of said commission shall be to find solutions for proper forest management
for fire prevention in Rhode Island.

The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters
for said commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
House of Representatives no later than February 28, 2024, and said commission shall expire on
April 30, 2024.
EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION TO EVALUATE AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROPER FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE PREVENTION

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This resolution would create a twelve (12) member legislative commission whose purpose it would be to evaluate and provide recommendations on proper forest management for fire prevention, and who would report back to the House no later than February 28, 2024, and whose life would expire on April 30, 2024.

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