

2024 -- H 8134

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LC005775
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO ENSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
COMPREHENSIVE AND ACTIONABLE PLAN THAT ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF
RHODE ISLAND'S AGING POPULATION

Introduced By: Representative Lauren H. Carson

Date Introduced: April 03, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, On May 11, 2023, the House of Representatives enacted a legislative
2 commission to study and provide recommendations pertaining to services and coordination of
3 state programs relating to older adult Rhode Islanders; and

4 WHEREAS, The purpose of the commission is to make a comprehensive study of key
5 statistics and information about services for older adults in Rhode Island including, but not
6 limited to, review and provide recommendations for the funding of services through State,
7 Federal, and private grants and provide recommendations for more efficient distribution and use
8 of these dollars and more effective delivery of services as we prepare for a growth in the numbers
9 of aging Rhode Islanders over the next seven (7) years; and

10 WHEREAS, The Commission has gathered strategic information essential for the
11 formulation of a State Plan on Aging, and thus far, has made significant progress effectively
12 constituting half of the work required for a comprehensive strategic plan; and

13 WHEREAS, To expedite the planning process efficiently and cost-effectively requires
14 specialized expertise and strategic guidance, including engaging a qualified strategic planning
15 consultant to ensure the development of a comprehensive and actionable plan that addresses the
16 needs of Rhode Island's aging population; and

17 WHEREAS, An allocation of \$250,000 is essential for the engagement of a strategic
18 planning consultant for the development and completion of a comprehensive and actionable 2030
19 Aging Plan that addresses the needs of Rhode Island's aging population, which would be broken

1 down as follows:

2 1. \$200,000 for a strategic planning consultant to facilitate the completion of the 2030
3 Aging Plan, ensuring that the expertise of both the House Study Commission on Aging Policy
4 and relevant state agencies are effectively utilized, and thereby maximizing the impact of
5 available resources and expediting the implementation of critical initiatives to support Rhode
6 Island's aging population;

7 2. The strategic planning consultant would be selected through a competitive
8 procurement process, ensuring that the chosen consultant possesses the requisite experience,
9 expertise, and resources to effectively facilitate the formulation of the State Plan on Aging. The
10 consultants would be chosen by the Rhode Island Office on Aging;

11 3. The strategic planning consultant would work closely with the State Division on
12 Planning, the Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging, the House Commission on Aging and other
13 relevant stakeholders to gather input, analyze data, and develop recommendations for the State
14 Plan on Aging;

15 4. The strategic planning consultant would also be responsible for conducting thorough
16 research, identifying best practices, and drafting actionable strategies and initiatives to address the
17 diverse needs and priorities of Rhode Island's aging population utilizing the work products of the
18 House Study Commission on Aging Policy;

19 5. The State Division on Planning and the Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging would
20 collaborate closely with the planning consultant to ensure that the resulting plan is
21 comprehensive, actionable, and reflective of the needs and priorities of Rhode Island's aging
22 population;

23 6. The strategic planning consultant would provide regular progress reports and updates
24 to the State Division on Planning, the Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging, the House Study
25 Commission on Aging and other stakeholders throughout the planning process, soliciting
26 feedback and ensuring alignment with state priorities and objectives;

27 7. The Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging, in conjunction with the State Division on
28 Planning and the House Study Commission on Aging Policy, would oversee the preparation of
29 the 2030 Aging Plan;

30 8. \$25,000 would be allocated to the Rhode Island Office on Healthy Aging and would be
31 utilized to facilitate outreach efforts, community engagement initiatives, and other activities
32 aimed at ensuring that the perspectives and needs of aging residents are incorporated into the
33 2030 Aging Plan;

34 9. \$25,000 would be allocated to the State Division on Planning and would be utilized to

1 support staffing, administrative costs, and other resources necessary for their involvement in the
2 planning process;

3 10. The 2030 Aging Plan for Rhode Island would be completed no later than July 2025,
4 and would incorporate the strategic insights and recommendations gathered by the House Study
5 Commission on Aging Policy; and

6 WHEREAS, The completion of the 2030 Aging Plan will serve as a critical step in
7 advancing the State's commitment to supporting and enhancing the well-being of its aging
8 residents, fostering a more inclusive and age-friendly Rhode Island for generations to come; now,
9 therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
11 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2024-2025, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand
12 dollars (\$250,000) for a strategic planning consultant, to the Rhode Island Office on Healthy
13 Aging, and to the State Division on Planning to ensure the development of a comprehensive and
14 actionable plan that addresses the needs of Rhode Island's aging population; and the state
15 controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the
16 payment of said sum, upon receipt of properly authenticated 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 \$250,000 TO ENSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
COMPREHENSIVE AND ACTIONABLE PLAN THAT ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF
RHODE ISLAND'S AGING POPULATION

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$250,000 consisting of
- 2 \$200,000 for a strategic planning consultant, and \$25,000 each for the Rhode Island Office on
- 3 Healthy Aging, and the State Division on Planning.

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