

2024 -- S 2574

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LC005531  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024**

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**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE UNITED WAY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FOR THE 2-1-1 HUMAN SERVICES HOTLINE**

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Mack, Zurier, Pearson, DiMario, Lauria, Miller, Ujifusa,  
Murray, and Quezada

Date Introduced: March 01, 2024

Referred To: Senate Finance

1           WHEREAS, Since 2007, the United Way of Rhode Island has operated and maintained  
2 2-1-1 as a free and confidential service for all Rhode Islanders, one that is available 24 hours a  
3 day, every day, 365 days per year, in nearly 200 languages and dialects that provides a direct  
4 human connection to solve life's most pressing problems; and

5           WHEREAS, By call, text or chat 2-1-1, Rhode Islanders find assistance on everything  
6 from housing to child care to health care services and food and shelter, as well as help with tax  
7 preparation and utilities; and

8           WHEREAS, Insights gained from 2-1-1 help multiple state departments by and through  
9 the United Way of Rhode Island identify the changing needs of Rhode Islanders to better serve  
10 our community; and

11           WHEREAS, In 2023, more than 120,000 requests for help were received by 2-1-1 with  
12 the majority focused on requests relating to housing, food, health care and utilities; and

13           WHEREAS, 2-1-1 plays a critical communications role during natural disasters or other  
14 state crises; including floods and winter snow storms; and

15           WHEREAS, The community as a whole benefits from 2-1-1 because it helps people  
16 connect with the information they need, when they need it most, and increases efficiency by  
17 helping callers define their needs and identify multiple available services; now, therefore be it

18           RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any American Rescue Plan Act  
19 monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated and committed by July 1, 2024, the sum of five

1 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the United Way of Rhode Island to provide operational  
2 support for the 2-1-1 system; and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his  
3 orders upon the general treasurer for payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from  
4 time required, 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 \$500,000 TO THE UNITED WAY OF RHODE ISLAND  
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- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to the United
- 2 Way of Rhode Island to provide operational support for the 2-1-1 system.

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