

**2026 -- H 7597**

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LC004849

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Stewart, Biah, Hull, J. Lombardi, Felix, Giraldo, Alzate, Sanchez, and Ajello

Date Introduced: February 06, 2026

Referred To: House Finance

1        WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Black Business Association (RIBBA) was formed in 2011  
2        for the purposes of advancing business opportunities and vitality of Black-owned and minority  
3        businesses in Rhode Island; and

4        WHEREAS, RIBBA assists those businesses through business development,  
5        entrepreneurship training, business advocacy, contracting, workforce development, and access to  
6        capital; and

7        WHEREAS, RIBBA's membership includes those individuals and businesses of all sizes  
8        regardless of ethnicity, race, gender, abilities, socioeconomic status, culture, sexual orientation,  
9        and gender identity and the services and programs offered by RIBBA are open to all Rhode  
10      Islanders; and

11       WHEREAS, The organization is one hundred percent (100%) funded through  
12      government grants, corporate grants and public support; now, therefore be it

13       RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of money in the treasury not  
14      otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2026-2027, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars  
15      (\$200,000) to the Rhode Island Black Business Association to assist its efforts and services to  
16      entrepreneurs, business owners, and employers in Rhode Island; and the state controller is hereby  
17      authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum,  
18      or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated

1 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 \$200,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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- 1        This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$200,000 to the Rhode
- 2        Island Black Business Association.

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