

2026 -- H 7705

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LC005124
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$40,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM) FOR THE NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT

Introduced By: Representatives Cotter, Chippendale, Speakman, Carson, McGaw, Kennedy, Kazarian, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: February 11, 2026

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact (NFFPC) was established
2 in 1949, and acts as a mutual aid pact for wildfires exceeding local capabilities; and

3 WHEREAS, Currently, the NFFPC has a formal agreement among seven New England
4 states, New York, and five Canadian provinces that provides for sharing of firefighting resources,
5 technology, and training; and

6 WHEREAS, Rhode Island is an active member of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection
7 Compact (NFFPC) with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Division
8 of Forest Environment representing the State; and

9 WHEREAS, The compact serves to facilitate cost-sharing and resource sharing during
10 emergencies, allowing states to access specialized resources without maintaining them full-time,
11 however, when a state requests aid, that state is responsible for paying the wages, salaries,
12 transportation, and maintenance of the employees and equipment from the assisting state; now,
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
15 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2026-2027, the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000)
16 to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for The Northeastern Forest Fire
17 Protection Compact (NFFPC); and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw
18 their orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be

1 from time to 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 \$40,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM) FOR THE NORTHEASTERN FOREST FIRE PROTECTION COMPACT

- 1 This resolution would appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to the Rhode Island Department of
- 2 Environmental Management.

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