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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF APPROXIMATELY \$30,000,000 TO RHODE ISLAND'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

Introduced By: Senators Rogers, de la Cruz, E Morgan, Paolino, DiMario, Thompson, Patalano, and Raptakis

Date Introduced: January 09, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

1 WHEREAS, According to RIDE's Information & Accountability data, Rhode Island has
2 more than 300 public schools from which it collects and analyzes data; and

3 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws § 16-3.2-1 states "...the general assembly is
4 committed to developing and supporting strategies that foster cultures of excellence, innovation,
5 and continuous improvement in Rhode Island schools" and that schools benefit from "...the
6 autonomy and flexibility to continuously improve instruction and implement and adopt strategies
7 that meet the needs of their students"; and

8 WHEREAS, With the horrendous increase in mass shootings across the country and the
9 rapid advances in information technology systems and fields, investment in these areas is critical
10 to the success of Rhode Island's students; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury from
12 capital funds allocated to school construction in the fiscal year 2026-2027 state budget, the
13 approximate sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) of which one hundred thousand dollars
14 (\$100,000) would be distributed to each public school in Rhode Island for school safety and
15 security improvements including, but not limited to, audio and visual systems, access control
16 systems, and communication upgrades; and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed
17 to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of

1 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 APPROXIMATELY \$30,000,000 TO RHODE
ISLAND'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$100,000 to each public
- 2 school in Rhode Island for school safety and security improvements.

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