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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TRANSPORTATION
INVESTMENT AND DEBT REDUCTION ACT OF 2011

Introduced By: Senators Zurier, McKenney, Gu, Acosta, Bissaillon, Lauria, DiMario,
Kallman, Vargas, and Quezada

Date Introduced: January 16, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 39-18.1-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-18.1 entitled
2 "Transportation Investment and Debt Reduction Act of 2011" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **39-18.1-5. Allocation of funds.**

4 (a) The monies in the highway maintenance fund to be directed to the department of
5 transportation pursuant to § 39-18.1-4(b)(1) — (b)(3) shall be allocated through the transportation
6 improvement program process to provide the state match for federal transportation funds, in place
7 of borrowing, as approved by the state planning council. The expenditure of moneys in the highway
8 maintenance fund shall only be authorized for projects that appear in the state's transportation
9 improvement program.

10 (b) Provided, however, that beginning with fiscal year 2015 and annually thereafter, the
11 department of transportation will allocate necessary funding to programs that are designed to
12 eliminate structural deficiencies of the state's bridge, road, and maintenance systems and
13 infrastructure.

14 (c) Provided, that beginning July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2025, five percent (5%) of
15 available proceeds in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account shall be allocated annually
16 to the Rhode Island public transit authority for operating expenditures.

17 (d) Provided, that beginning July 1, 2025, [through June 30, 2026](#), ten percent (10%) of
18 available proceeds in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account shall be allocated annually

1 to the Rhode Island public transit authority for operating expenditures.

2 (e) Provided, that beginning July 1, 2026, twenty percent (20%) of available proceeds in
3 the Rhode Island highway maintenance account shall be allocated annually to the Rhode Island
4 public transit authority for operating expenditures.

5 (f) Provided, further, that from July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, in addition to the
6 amount above, the Rhode Island public transit authority shall receive an amount of not less than
7 five million dollars (\$5,000,000) each fiscal year, except for the period July 1, 2019, through June
8 30, 2022, during which such amount or a portion thereof may come from federal coronavirus relief
9 funds.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- TRANSPORTATION
INVESTMENT AND DEBT REDUCTION ACT OF 2011

- 1 This act would provide beginning July 1, 2026, that twenty percent (20%) of available
- 2 proceeds in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account would be allocated annually to RIPTA
- 3 for operating expenditures.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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