

2026 -- S 2559

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LC005186
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,000,000 TO RHODE ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES,
INC.

Introduced By: Senators Bissaillon, LaMountain, McKenney, Britto, Dimitri, Mack, and
DiPalma

Date Introduced: February 13, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

1 WHEREAS, Each year, thousands of hardworking low-income Rhode Island families,
2 victims of domestic violence, Veterans, and older residents depend on Rhode Island Legal
3 Services, Inc. for legal representation and assistance; and

4 WHEREAS, Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization with statewide
5 operations; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2025, Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. opened 5,805 cases and closed
7 4,713; and

8 WHEREAS, Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. has prioritized helping Rhode Islanders
9 obtain safe, affordable housing, income maintenance and food, a healthy community, family
10 preservation and safety, financial stability, high-quality and appropriate education, and
11 employment and workers' rights; and

12 WHEREAS, Since its founding, Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc. has helped over two
13 hundred thousand Rhode Islanders lead safe, productive, and self-sufficient lives; now, therefore
14 be it

15 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
16 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2026-2027, the sum of three million dollars
17 (\$3,000,000) to Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.; and the state controller is hereby directed to
18 draw their orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much thereof

1 as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,000,000 TO RHODE ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES,
INC.

- 1 This resolution would appropriate the sum of \$3,000,000 to Rhode Island Legal Services,
2 Inc.

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