

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT URGENTLY UNDERTAKES A COMPLETE AND COMPREHENSIVE INSPECTION OF ALL PUBLIC HOUSING WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION IN THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE

Introduced By: Senators Quezada, Bell, Goodwin, Ciccone, Zurier, Miller, Ruggerio, and Mack

Date Introduced: March 01, 2022

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

1 WHEREAS, The City of Providence has a multitude of public housing developments
2 within its boundaries, including more than 2,600 units; and

3 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization had declared the Coronavirus outbreak to
4 be a global pandemic, resulting in necessary public housing inspections slowing down for the
5 duration of the pandemic; and

6 WHEREAS, The Inspector Administrator (IA) of HUD sent notice NO. 2021-01 to the
7 Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) Inspectors regarding amendment to COVID-19
8 Inspection Guidance; and

9 WHEREAS, Effective June 1, 2021, REAC will expand its inspections in support of the
10 prioritized backlog; and

11 WHEREAS, There is an obligation to ensure the overall health and well-being of HUD
12 assisted households by providing housing that is decent, safe and sanitary; and

13 WHEREAS, The local housing authority also exists to develop and maintain decent, safe
14 and sanitary housing and to address the economic and social needs of residents; and

15 WHEREAS, HUD Inspectors check to assure that property managers are following
16 HUD's inspection standards which are meant to help and protect tenants by inspecting for serious
17 health and safety issues. These issues include, but are not limited to, inspections for lead paint,
18 mold, functioning doors and locks, functioning windows, locks and screens, functioning bath,

1 toilet and sinks, assuring there are no leaks in pipes and faucets, ensuring that laundry dryers are
2 properly functioning and vented, and making sure that basic upkeep of maintenance issues and
3 rodent control are being utilized and are effective; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby respectfully requests
5 that the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development urgently undertakes a
6 complete and comprehensive inspection of all public housing within their jurisdiction in the City
7 of Providence, Rhode Island; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Marcia L. Fudge, Secretary of the United States
10 Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Rhode Island Congressional
11 Delegation.

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