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LC004175

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND FOOD BANK**

Introduced By: Senators Mack, Acosta, Murray, Bissaillon, DiPalma, Felag, Ciccone, Thompson, de la Cruz, and Famiglietti

Date Introduced: January 23, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

1        WHEREAS, The demand for emergency food assistance reached historic highs in Rhode  
2        Island in 2025, with over 102,000 Rhode Islanders receiving assistance from an area food pantry  
3        in November of 2025; and

4        WHEREAS, One in three Rhode Island households are facing food insecurity; and

5        WHEREAS, Almost 32,000 Rhode Islanders will see their SNAP benefits reduced or  
6        stopped altogether due to federal SNAP changes from Congress's passage of H.R.1 legislation in  
7        July of 2025; and

8        WHEREAS, The loss of SNAP benefits to Rhode Islanders will equal \$9.5 million  
9        dollars; and

10       WHEREAS, Individuals who lose SNAP or have reduced benefits will need to rely more  
11       on area food pantries; and

12       WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Community Food Bank provides food and support to 137  
13       member agencies in every area of Rhode Island and has seen their federal support for food  
14       already reduced; now, therefore be it

15       RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of 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 the Rhode Island Food Bank; and the state controller is hereby authorized and  
18       directed to draw their orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much

1 thereof as may be 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 \$3,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND FOOD BANK

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1        This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$3,000,000 to the Rhode  
2        Island Food Bank.

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