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LC02354/SUB A
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING COUNCIL

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, Keable, Tomasso, O'Brien, and Craven

Date Introduced: May 01, 2013

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 64.16

4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

5 **42-64.16-1. Statewide economic planning council established.** -- (a) During the first
6 year of each new gubernatorial administration, the governor shall create and appoint an economic
7 development planning council consisting of no fewer than fifteen (15) members as follows:

8 (1) One of whom shall be the secretary of commerce, who shall serve as chair;

9 (2) One of whom shall be the director of administration;

10 (3) One of whom shall be the director of revenue;

11 (4) One of whom shall be commissioner of elementary and secondary education;

12 (5) One of whom shall be commissioner of higher education;

13 (6) One of whom shall be the director of transportation;

14 (7) One of whom shall be from the governor's policy office;

15 Eight (8) other members who shall be appointed by the governor, giving consideration to
16 seeking members from the following disciplines and backgrounds:

17 (i) Private higher education;

18 (ii) Municipalities;

- 1 (iii) Development;
- 2 (iv) Venture capital;
- 3 (v) Labor; and
- 4 (vi) Such other disciplines and background that the governor deems appropriate.

5 (b) The governor may also appoint additional members of regional and local economic
6 development groups and members of the business community to serve on the council. Members
7 of the council shall serve for a term of one year or until an economic development policy has
8 been approved by the governor under this section.

9 (c)The secretary of commerce, with the assistance of the economic development planning
10 council appointed under this section, shall develop and implement a written comprehensive
11 economic development policy for the state and a strategic plan for implementing the policy. The
12 policy shall set long term goals and measurable benchmarks which are not limited to a particular
13 gubernatorial administration and shall give consideration to any impacts the plan may have on
14 businesses employing ten (10) or fewer people. The strategic plan shall include any major
15 economic development initiatives and programs of the secretary of commerce and any agencies
16 subject to this section.

17 (d) In developing the policy, the council shall review the published economic
18 development policy and plan in effect at the commencement of the governor's term of office and
19 may hold public hearings throughout the state.

20 (e) Once the policy and plan have been adopted by the secretary and the council, the
21 council shall submit the policy and plan to the speaker of the house and president of the senate.
22 The final approval of the policy and plan by the governor shall not be granted until the house and
23 senate have conducted a public hearing on the policy and plan. The approved policy and plan
24 shall be published in writing and on the official website of the state not later than December 31 of
25 that year.

26 (f) Interim policy and plan. - No later than April 30, 2014, statewide planning shall
27 develop an interim economic development policy and strategic plan that is substantially similar to
28 the four (4) year policy and plan required by this section. The final approval of the interim policy
29 and plan by the governor shall not be granted until the house and senate have conducted a public
30 hearing on the interim policy and plan.

31 **42-64.16-2. Cooperation required. --** The executive office of commerce shall be
32 responsible for staffing the work of the economic development planning council, and the division
33 of planning in the department of administration shall also provide staff support. All departments
34 represented on the council shall cooperate with the executive office of commerce and the division

1 of planning to facilitate the purposes of this chapter. All departments, offices, boards and
2 agencies of the state shall cooperate with the council of economic advisors and furnish such
3 administrative and staff support, advice, information, documents and otherwise, data and data
4 analysis and other support as may be necessary or desirable.

5 **42-64.16-3. Council subject to economic planning council open meetings and access**
6 **to public records laws. -- In addition to any other applicable law, rules or regulations, the**
7 **economic planning council shall be subject to the provisions of the open meetings act as set forth**
8 **in title 42, chapter 46 of the Rhode Island general laws, and the access to public records act as set**
9 **forth in title 38, chapter 2 of the Rhode Island general laws.**

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2014.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING COUNCIL

1 This act would establish a new economic development planning council. This act would
2 direct said council to develop a written comprehensive economic development policy for the state
3 and a strategic plan for implementing such policy.

4 This act would take effect on January 1, 2014.

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