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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES TAX REPEAL ACT OF 2013

Introduced By: Senators Picard, Bates, Raptakis, Walaska, and Ottiano

Date Introduced: February 13, 2013

Referred To: Senate Finance

1 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
2 consisting of thirteen (13) members: three (3) of whom shall be members of the House of
3 Representatives, not more than two (2) of whom from the same political party, to be appointed by
4 the Speaker; three (3) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not more than two (2) of whom
5 from the same political party, to be appointed by the Senate President; one of whom shall be the
6 Director of the Department of Revenue, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director
7 of RIPEC, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Greater Providence Chamber of
8 Commerce, or designee; ~~two (2)~~ one of whom shall be a members member of the business
9 community at large, ~~one of whom shall~~ to be appointed by the Speaker, and one of whom shall be
10 a taxpayer representative appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall be the
11 President of the Rhode Island Hospitality Association, or designee; and one of whom shall be the
12 President of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, or designee.

13 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory
14 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a general assembly
15 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
16 of a legislator, provided that the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader of the political party
17 which is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general
18 public.

19 The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study of all aspects of
20 the current system pertaining to sales tax in the State of Rhode Island, including, but not limited

1 to, the possibility of repealing the sales tax.

2 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
3 the call of the Speaker of the House and Senate President and organize and shall select from
4 among the legislators a chairperson. Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner
5 as the original appointment.

6 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

7 All departments, boards, commissions, and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice
8 and information, documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed
9 necessary or desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

10 The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide
11 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
13 General Assembly on or before February 6, 2014, and said commission shall expire on April 8,
14 2014.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES TAX REPEAL ACT OF 2013

1 This resolution would create a thirteen (13) member special legislative commission
2 whose purpose would be to make a comprehensive study of all aspects of the current system
3 pertaining to sales tax in the State of Rhode Island, including, but not limited to, the possibility of
4 repealing the sales tax, and who would report back to the General Assembly no later than
5 February 6, 2014, and whose life would expire April 8, 2014.

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