

2013 -- S 0714

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF DIGITAL EXCELLENCE AND THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO UPGRADE AND IMPROVE EDC'S
WEBSITE

Introduced By: Senators Cote, Archambault, Satchell, Raptakis, and Conley

Date Introduced: March 13, 2013

Referred To: Senate Commerce

1 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation's website is often
2 the first impression of the Ocean State for out-of-state businesses looking to relocate to Rhode
3 Island. The website presents a unique opportunity to showcase the state's strengths, appeal, and
4 business incentives to prospective companies; and

5 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's official state website and network, RI.gov, was recently
6 ranked fourth in the nation for the second consecutive year in the Center for Digital Government's
7 "Best of the Web" competition; and

8 WHEREAS, Leading states' economic development websites are recognized by the
9 International Economic Development Council through the Council's Excellence in Economic
10 Development Award; and

11 WHEREAS, The criteria used in judging such websites include visual appeal and
12 navigability, timeliness of information, interactivity, content quality, and the availability of
13 relevant and up-to-date data. Such websites often provide single-point access to multiple state
14 agencies, an approach that can assist a business and present an image of confidence and self-
15 assurance; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2012, the Office of Digital Excellence was established with a statutory
17 purpose that includes positioning Rhode Island as a national leader in e-government; now,
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 respectfully requests the Office of Digital Excellence, in partnership with the Economic
2 Development Corporation, to upgrade and improve the Economic Development Corporation's
3 website to align with websites of leading states;

4 RESOLVED, That such upgrades and improvements should include seamless integration
5 and compatibility with websites of other state agencies that are of direct interest to current and
6 prospective businesses including, but not limited to, the Department of Labor and Training, the
7 Secretary of State, and the Department of Business Regulation; 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 the Chief Digital Officer of the State of Rhode
10 Island and to the Director of the Economic Development Corporation.

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