

2013 -- S 1039

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LC02931
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

JOINT RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR INCLUDE ALTERNATIVE
METHODOLOGY TO FINANCE THE CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION ACCOUNT, THE
ADULT IMMUNIZATION ACCOUNT, AND THE CHILD HEALTH ACCOUNT IN THE
FY2015 BUDGET

Introduced By: Senators Felag, McCaffrey, and Walaska

Date Introduced: July 01, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Office of Immunization reports immunization coverage
2 rates of 90 percent to protect against vaccine preventable diseases in children under 2 years of age
3 and in children who entered kindergarten in 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, The children's health account and the immunization programs for adults and
5 children are funded through legislation directing insurers to assess an annual fee and a tax on
6 fully insured lives; and

7 WHEREAS, Self-funded health insurance plans and out-of-state employers do not pay
8 into these accounts, yet their employees benefit from the services listed above; and

9 WHEREAS, Over the past seven years, the number of fully insured Rhode Islanders has
10 decreased by almost 23 percent, while the number of self-insured lives has increased by 13
11 percent during that same time period; and

12 WHEREAS, The increasing costs of these programs are being shouldered by a smaller
13 tax base as the number of commercially insured businesses in Rhode Island decreases; now,
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence
16 Plantations respectfully requests that the governor include in the state budget for state fiscal year
17 2015 a new, broad-based, and sustainable methodology to finance the programs and accounts
18 pursuant to Rhode Island General Law subsections 42-12-29(a), 23-1-45(a), and 23-1-45(c) to

1 finance child and adult immunizations and the child health account; and be it further
2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the governor.

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