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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF ENERGY
RESOURCES TO ISSUE A REPORT DESCRIBING ITS FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STATE'S ENERGY SECURITY AND IMPROVEMENT
OPPORTUNITIES

Introduced By: Representatives Azzinaro, Corvese, Malik, McNamara, and Edwards

Date Introduced: May 22, 2014

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

1 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources provides an oversight role
2 with the state's electrical, gas and distillate fuel infrastructures in Rhode Island; and

3 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources also works with and
4 coordinates energy security matters and responses with both the Rhode Island Division of Public
5 Utilities and Carriers and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency; and

6 WHEREAS, Rhode Island has experienced a significant number of weather related
7 events over the past four years, which have caused disruptions to the state's electrical, gas and
8 distillate fuel infrastructures; and

9 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources provides staffing resources
10 and technical assistance to the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency during severe
11 storm or heat wave related events; and

12 WHEREAS, Recent events such as Hurricane Sandy and Blizzard Nemo have
13 significantly tested the state's electrical and distillate fuel terminal infrastructures. These impacts
14 are likely to continue into the future due, in part, to the impacts from climate change; and

15 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources is well suited to consider and
16 make recommendations regarding energy security matters, including policy recommendations,
17 from the State Energy Assurance Plan and the State Energy Plan; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and

1 Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources
2 to address the following matters:

3 1. Identify, in coordination with the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and
4 Carriers and other state agencies, the state's electrical, gas and distillate fuel vulnerabilities;

5 2. Highlight anything occurring over the next twelve (12) months involving heat waves,
6 tropical storms, hurricanes, and significant winter storms;

7 3. Highlight opportunities for funding that the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources,
8 in coordination with the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the Rhode
9 Island Emergency Management Agency, can potentially pursue with the federal government on
10 energy security, including micro-grids;

11 4. Provide policy recommendations from the State Energy Assurance Plan and State
12 Energy Plan on system reliability, grid modernization, and opportunities in diversifying and
13 enhancing the state's fuel diversity through both natural gas and local and regional distributed
14 generation renewable energy resources; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That this House hereby respectfully requests the Rhode Island Office of
16 Energy Resources to issue a report that highlights its findings and recommendations to the
17 General Assembly on or before May 26, 2015; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
19 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of the Rhode Island Office
20 of Energy Resources.

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