

2014 -- S 3088

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - NATIONAL SECURITY
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FUND

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Felag, Algieri, and Ottiano

Date Introduced: June 11, 2014

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 30-32-4, 30-32-5, 30-32-6 and 30-32-7 of the General Laws in
2 Chapter 30-32 entitled "National Security Infrastructure Support Fund" are hereby amended to
3 read as follows:

4 **30-32-4. Administration of funds.** – (a) The commerce corporation is designated as the
5 public corporation to administer the national security infrastructure support fund and may receive
6 annual funding from appropriations made for that purpose. ~~The national security infrastructure~~
7 ~~support fund shall be administered by the economic development corporation.~~ The funds shall be
8 separately identified with corresponding revenues and expenses within the financial statements of
9 the ~~economic development~~ commerce corporation. No charges or fees for the operating expenses
10 of the fund, such as legal fees or appraisals related to a specific transaction, shall be allocated
11 from the fund to the ~~economic development~~ commerce corporation.

12 (b) Within the national security infrastructure support fund, two (2) distinct grant
13 programs shall be established to carry out the legislative intent of the fund. They shall be known
14 as the:

15 (1) Military facility protection program ("MFPP"), and

16 (2) The defense economy community reinvestment program ("DECRP").

17 **30-32-5. Allocation of funds.—Military facility protection program.** – (a) The purpose
18 of this fund is to address emergent needs relating to mission sustainment, encroachment reduction

1 or prevention, and base retention. All funds appropriated for the purposes of this program are
2 eligible to be used for matching of federal funds.

3 (b) The specific allocation of the funds shall be determined by the ~~economic development~~
4 commerce corporation, after consultation with the fund's advisory board, and within the following
5 program guidelines:

6 ~~(a)~~ (1) To provide grants and loans to improve water, sewer, electric, gas, roads, rail
7 systems, runways, navigational, or security systems relating to the support of national security
8 infrastructures located within the state;

9 ~~(b)~~ (2) To secure real estate and tangible property, as well as non-conservation lands,
10 ~~that can~~ to be used for expansion or to protect against encroachment around national security
11 installations within the state;

12 (3) To support best practices in energy efficiency savings initiatives at military facilities,
13 including renewable energy applications;

14 (4) To support innovative public/private partnerships in military facility operations,
15 including utility, housing, purchasing, and transportation services; and

16 ~~(e)~~ (5) To provide grants to increase the mission-related capabilities of the national
17 security infrastructures located within the state.

18 **30-32-6. Priority of funding.** -- Priority of funding shall be given to allocations that
19 provide at least a twenty percent (20%) match or supplement funds from other sources.

20 **30-32-7. Reports.** -- The ~~economic development~~ commerce corporation shall provide the
21 general assembly with a biennial report documenting the allocation and uses of money from this
22 fund.

23 SECTION 2. Chapter 30-32 of the General Laws entitled "National Security
24 Infrastructure Support Fund" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

25 **30-32-5.1. Defense economy community reinvestment program.** – (a) The purpose of
26 this fund is to assist defense-dependent municipalities to develop and implement alternative
27 economic diversification strategies that repurpose surplus defense facilities and properties. All
28 funds appropriated for the purposes of this program are eligible to be used for matching of federal
29 funds.

30 (b) The specific allocation of the funds shall be determined by the commerce corporation
31 after consultation with the fund's advisory board and within the following program guidelines:

32 (1) Eligible applicants include defense-dependent municipalities and regions and local
33 economic development organizations located within such communities. The program shall be
34 administered by the commerce corporation and grant awards may be provided to support

1 community-based activities that:

2 (i) Assist communities in defense-dependent municipalities and regions to plan, analyze,
3 and develop transitional strategies that maximize uses for surplus defense properties;

4 (ii) Diversify and further commercialize the local economy of a defense-dependent
5 community; and

6 (iii) Encourage the development of public/private partnerships focused within the high
7 growth fields of information technology, cyber security, engineering, and advanced
8 manufacturing.

9 **30-32-8. National security infrastructure support fund advisory commission. – (a)**

10 There shall be established a permanent advisory board that shall consist of seven (7) members:

11 (1) One of whom shall be the secretary of commerce or his or her designee;

12 (2) Two (2) of whom shall be the co-chairs of the Rhode Island defense economy
13 planning commission;

14 (3) Four (4) of whom shall be representatives of defense dependent communities, one
15 named by the speaker of the house, one named by the senate president, one named by the
16 minority leader of the house, and one named by the minority leader of the senate; and

17 (4) Additionally, the co-chairpersons may designate additional non-voting, ad hoc
18 members whose technical expertise may be needed based upon national security infrastructure
19 investment issues pending or projects submitted to the fund.

20 (b) This board shall be purely advisory and shall meet whenever a quorum of four (4)
21 shall deem it necessary or at the request of the secretary when grant rounds are contemplated or in
22 process.

23 (c) The co-chairs of the Rhode Island defense economy planning commission shall chair
24 the advisory commission and its meetings.

25 (d) The advisory commission shall meet at the call of the chairpersons.

26 (e) The members of the board shall serve for a period of three (3) years.

27 (f) The purpose of this commission shall be to identify potential projects and to assist the
28 secretary of commerce in evaluating projects for funding under the provisions of this chapter.

29 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - NATIONAL SECURITY
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FUND

1 This act would create the military facility protection program and the defense economy
2 community reinvestment program and would establish a national security infrastructure support
3 fund advisory commission.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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