

2017 -- H 6264

LC002744

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PESTICIDE RELIEF FUND

Introduced By: Representative Arthur Handy

Date Introduced: May 26, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-25.2-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-25.2 entitled
2 "Pesticide Relief Fund" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-25.2-5. Pesticide relief.**

4 (a) All pesticide registration fees paid pursuant to § 23-25-6(f) and recoveries on
5 subrogated claims pursuant to § 23-25.2-7 shall be deposited as general revenues.

6 (b) The sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from the pesticide registration
7 fees paid shall be appropriated annually to the department of environmental management for
8 staff, programs and administrative costs related to pollinator habitat, health and integrated pest
9 management. All money appropriated for pesticide relief is specifically appropriated to the
10 director for the following purposes:

11 (1) To provide emergency response activities related to the contamination of land, water,
12 and buildings. Appropriate uses for funds granted under this subdivision shall include testing and
13 monitoring of domestic water supply sources and the purchase of the following supplies and
14 services: carbon filters or other such devices for wells, bottled water, alternate water supplies, or
15 other suitable and cost effective measures to remedy or ameliorate the effects of pesticide
16 contamination.

17 (2) To monitor the environment including but not limited to the collection of analysis of
18 soil, water, crops, livestock, and wildlife samples. The monitoring and analysis shall be in
19 addition to any provided for by regular appropriations of the state or federal grants made for that

1 purpose;

2 (3) To make grants to municipalities for up to, but not more than, one-third (1/3) of the
3 direct costs incurred in extending public water systems to areas experiencing multiple
4 contaminated domestic water supply. Grants made to municipalities under this subdivision may
5 not be used, either alone or in conjunction with other funds, beyond the area necessary to rectify
6 an established multiple contaminated domestic water supply;

7 (4) To make grants for IPM research and educational projects. Appropriate grants under
8 this subdivision shall include but not be limited to the following: research grants to Rhode Island
9 institutions of higher learning for IPM research projects in both agricultural and urban pest
10 control; education grants to Rhode Island environmental organizations, Rhode Island institutions
11 of higher learning, and departments or agencies of state government to promote the concept of
12 IPM; program grants to departments or agencies of both state and local government for IPM
13 programs in such areas as mosquito abatement, gypsy moth control, and urban pest management
14 in publicly owned buildings; program grants to private firms and organizations for IPM programs
15 in privately owned buildings that are open to the general public, such as hospitals, museums,
16 malls, and schools; and program grants to farmers for IPM programs on their farms; and

17 (5) For payment of ancillary services, personnel, and equipment incurred in order to carry
18 out the purposes of this chapter.

19 (c) Thirty-five percent (35%) of appropriations shall be reserved for grants under
20 subsection (b)(4) of this section. No award of relief to any one household under subsection (b)(1)
21 shall exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). No grant to any municipality under subsection (b)(3)
22 shall exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount available in the portion of the fund
23 reserved for these grants at the time the grant is awarded. No grant under subsection (b)(4) shall
24 exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount available in the portion of the fund reserved for
25 these grants at the time the grant is awarded.

26 (d) The director is empowered, with the approval of the governor, to apply for and
27 receive grants, appropriations, gifts, bequests, donations, or other funds from any public or
28 private source that are intended to provided either emergency relief for pesticide contamination or
29 financial support for IPM projects.

30 (e) Any recovery on a subrogated claim pursuant to § 23-25.2-7 shall be deposited as
31 general revenues.

32 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would set aside five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from the pesticide
2 relief fund for DEM, staff, programs, and administrative costs associated with pollinator habitats,
3 health and integrated pest management.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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