

2022 -- H 7663

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LC005266
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT FUNDS FOR THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY TOURISM COUNCIL

Introduced By: Representatives Giraldo, McLaughlin, and Alzate

Date Introduced: March 02, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The funding provided under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
2 "provides a unique opportunity for state and local governments to make strategic investments in
3 long-lived assets, rebuild reserves to enhance financial stability, and cover temporary operating
4 shortfalls until economic conditions and operations normalize"; and

5 WHEREAS, Since its creation in 1985, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council has been
6 a leader in transforming Rhode Island's Blackstone Valley into an internationally-recognized
7 visitor destination. The Blackstone Valley is a strong, vibrant region for visitors and residents
8 alike by working in conjunction with local communities, state and federal governments, and like-
9 minded nonprofits and businesses. Furthermore, the Council has not only increased the number of
10 visitors and enhanced their experiences, but also has strengthened the region's economy, created
11 a stronger, cleaner environment, and improved the quality of life for Blackstone Valley residents;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Tourism Council has received numerous international, national, state
14 and local awards in recognition for their efforts to build up the region including the "Tourism for
15 Tomorrow Destination Award" from the World Travel & Tourism Council, the "North American
16 Travel Personality of the Year Award" from the World Travel Awards and the "SBEST
17 Certification of Excellence" from the United Nations World Tourism Organization; and

18 WHEREAS, With the development and launch of the new Pawtucket Central Falls
19 commuter rail station, it is critical to launch a marketing and tourism strategy that targets the

1 strengths of the cities of Pawtucket and Central Falls; now, therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money from the American
3 Rescue Plan Act in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2022-2023, the sum
4 of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council for
5 marketing the new Pawtucket Central Falls commuter rail station; and the state controller is
6 hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of
7 said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly
8 authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT FUNDS FOR THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY TOURISM COUNCIL

- 1 This joint resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of three hundred
- 2 thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.

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