

ARTICLE 2

RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

SECTION 1. Section 23-3-25 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-3 entitled "Vital Records" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23-3-25. Fees for copies and searches

(a) The state registrar shall charge fees for searches and copies as follows:

(1) For a search of two (2) consecutive calendar years under one name and for issuance of a certified copy of a certificate of birth, fetal death, death, or marriage, or a certification of birth, or a certification that the record cannot be found, and each duplicate copy of a certificate or certification issued at the same time, the fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

(2) For each additional calendar year search, if applied for at the same time or within three (3) months of the original request and if proof of payment for the basic search is submitted, the fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

(3) For providing expedited service, the additional handling fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54.

(4) For processing of adoptions, legitimations, or paternity determinations as specified in §§ 23-3-14 and 23-3-15, there shall be a fee as set forth in § 23-1-54.

(5) For making authorized corrections, alterations, and additions, the fee is as set forth in § 23-1-54; provided, no fee shall be collected for making authorized corrections or alterations and additions on records filed before one year of the date on which the event recorded has occurred.

(6) For examination of documentary proof and the filing of a delayed record, there is a fee as set forth in § 23-1-54; and there is an additional fee as set forth in § 23-1-54 for the issuance of a certified copy of a delayed record.

(b) Fees collected under this section by the state registrar shall be deposited in the general fund of this state, according to the procedures established by the state treasurer.

(c) The local registrar shall charge fees for searches and copies of records as follows:

(1) For a search of two (2) consecutive calendar years under one name and for issuance of a certified copy of a certificate of birth, fetal death, death, delayed birth, or marriage, or a certification of birth or a certification that the record cannot be found, the fee is twenty dollars (\$20.00). For each duplicate copy of a certificate or certification issued at the same time, the fee is fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

1 (2) For each additional calendar year search, if applied for at the same time or within three
2 (3) months of the original request and if proof of payment for the basic search is submitted, the fee
3 is two dollars (\$2.00).

4 (d) Fees collected under this section by the local registrar shall be deposited in the city or
5 town treasury according to the procedures established by the city or town treasurer except that six
6 dollars (\$6.00) of the certified copy fees shall be submitted to the state registrar for deposit in the
7 general fund of this state.

8 (e) To acquire, maintain, and operate an electronic statewide registration system (ESRS),
9 the state registrar shall assess a surcharge of no more than five dollars (\$5.00) for a mail-in certified
10 records request, no more than three dollars (\$3.00) for each duplicate certified record, and no more
11 than two dollars (\$2.00) for a walk-in certified records request or a certified copy of a vital record
12 requested for a local registrar. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d), any such
13 surcharges collected by the local registrar shall be submitted to the state registrar. Any funds
14 collected from the surcharges listed above shall be deposited into the ~~information technology~~
15 ~~investment fund (ITIF)~~ information technology restricted receipt account (ITRR account)
16 established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(a).

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 35-3-20 of the General Laws entitled "State Budget" is hereby
18 amended by adding thereto the following section:

19 **35-3-20.2. Supplemental state budget reserve account.**

20 (a) There is hereby created within the general fund a supplemental state budget reserve
21 account, which shall be administered by the state controller and which shall be used solely for the
22 purpose of providing such sums as may be appropriated to fund any unanticipated general revenue
23 deficit caused by a general revenue shortfall.

24 (b) At any time after the third quarter of a fiscal year that it is indicated that total resources
25 which are defined to be the aggregate of estimated general revenue, general revenue receivables,
26 and available free surplus in the general fund will be less than the estimates upon which current
27 appropriations were based, the general assembly may make appropriations from the supplemental
28 state budget reserve account for the difference between the estimated total resources and the
29 original estimates upon which enacted appropriations were based, but only in the amount of the
30 difference based upon the revenues projected at the latest state revenue estimating conference
31 pursuant to chapter 16 of this title as reported by the chairperson of that conference.

32 (c) Whenever a transfer has been made pursuant to subsection (b), that transfer shall be
33 considered as estimated general revenues for the purposes of determining the amount to be
34 transferred to the Rhode Island Capital Plan fund for the purposes of § 35-3-20.1(b).

1 (d) The supplemental state budget reserve account shall consist of: (1) Such sums as the
2 state may from time to time directly transfer to the account as authorized in law; and (2) Any
3 amounts transferred pursuant to § 35-6-1(e).

4 SECTION 3. Section 35-4-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-4 entitled “State Funds”
5 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 **35-4-27. Indirect cost recoveries on restricted receipt accounts.**

7 Indirect cost recoveries of ten percent (10%) of cash receipts shall be transferred from all
8 restricted-receipt accounts, to be recorded as general revenues in the general fund. However, there
9 shall be no transfer from cash receipts with restrictions received exclusively: (1) From contributions
10 from nonprofit charitable organizations; (2) From the assessment of indirect cost-recovery rates on
11 federal grant funds; or (3) Through transfers from state agencies to the department of administration
12 for the payment of debt service. These indirect cost recoveries shall be applied to all accounts,
13 unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, court order, or court settlement. The following
14 restricted receipt accounts shall not be subject to the provisions of this section:

- 15 Executive Office of Health and Human Services
- 16 Organ Transplant Fund
- 17 HIV Care Grant Drug Rebates
- 18 Health System Transformation Project
- 19 Rhode Island Statewide Opioid Abatement Account
- 20 HCBS Support-ARPA
- 21 HCBS Admin Support-ARPA
- 22 Department of Human Services
- 23 Veterans’ home — Restricted account
- 24 Veterans’ home — Resident benefits
- 25 Pharmaceutical Rebates Account
- 26 Demand Side Management Grants
- 27 Veteran’s Cemetery Memorial Fund
- 28 Donations — New Veterans’ Home Construction
- 29 Department of Health
- 30 Pandemic medications and equipment account
- 31 Miscellaneous Donations/Grants from Non-Profits
- 32 State Loan Repayment Match
- 33 Healthcare Information Technology
- 34 Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals

1 Eleanor Slater non-Medicaid third-party payor account
2 Hospital Medicare Part D Receipts
3 RICLAS Group Home Operations
4 Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
5 Emergency and public communication access account
6 Department of Environmental Management
7 National heritage revolving fund
8 Environmental response fund II
9 Underground storage tanks registration fees
10 De Coppet Estate Fund
11 Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
12 Historic preservation revolving loan fund
13 Historic Preservation loan fund — Interest revenue
14 Department of Public Safety
15 E-911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System
16 Forfeited property — Retained
17 Forfeitures — Federal
18 Forfeited property — Gambling
19 Donation — Polygraph and Law Enforcement Training
20 Rhode Island State Firefighter’s League Training Account
21 Fire Academy Training Fees Account
22 Attorney General
23 Forfeiture of property
24 Federal forfeitures
25 Attorney General multi-state account
26 Forfeited property — Gambling
27 Department of Administration
28 OER Reconciliation Funding
29 Health Insurance Market Integrity Fund
30 RI Health Benefits Exchange
31 Information Technology ~~Investment Fund~~ [restricted receipt account](#)
32 Restore and replacement — Insurance coverage
33 Convention Center Authority rental payments
34 Investment Receipts — TANS

- 1 OPEB System Restricted Receipt Account
- 2 Car Rental Tax/Surcharge-Warwick Share
- 3 Grants Management Administration
- 4 [RGGI-Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council Projects](#)
- 5 Executive Office of Commerce
- 6 Housing Resources Commission Restricted Account
- 7 Housing Production Fund
- 8 Department of Revenue
- 9 DMV Modernization Project
- 10 Jobs Tax Credit Redemption Fund
- 11 Legislature
- 12 Audit of federal assisted programs
- 13 Department of Children, Youth and Families
- 14 Children's Trust Accounts — SSI
- 15 Military Staff
- 16 RI Military Family Relief Fund
- 17 RI National Guard Counterdrug Program
- 18 Treasury
- 19 Admin. Expenses — State Retirement System
- 20 Retirement — Treasury Investment Options
- 21 Defined Contribution — Administration - RR
- 22 Violent Crimes Compensation — Refunds
- 23 Treasury Research Fellowship
- 24 Business Regulation
- 25 Banking Division Reimbursement Account
- 26 Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner Reimbursement Account
- 27 Securities Division Reimbursement Account
- 28 Commercial Licensing and Racing and Athletics Division Reimbursement Account
- 29 Insurance Division Reimbursement Account
- 30 Historic Preservation Tax Credit Account
- 31 Marijuana Trust Fund
- 32 Social Equity Assistance Fund
- 33 Judiciary
- 34 Arbitration Fund Restricted Receipt Account

1 Third-Party Grants
2 RI Judiciary Technology Surcharge Account
3 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
4 Statewide Student Transportation Services Account
5 School for the Deaf Fee-for-Service Account
6 School for the Deaf — School Breakfast and Lunch Program
7 Davies Career and Technical School Local Education Aid Account
8 Davies — National School Breakfast & Lunch Program
9 School Construction Services
10 Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
11 Higher Education and Industry Center
12 IGT STEM Scholarships
13 Department of Labor and Training
14 Job Development Fund
15 Rhode Island Council on the Arts
16 Governors' Portrait Donation Fund
17 Statewide records management system account

18 SECTION 4. Section 35-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-6 entitled "Accounts and
19 Control" is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **35-6-1. Controller — Duties in general.**

21 (a) Within the department of administration there shall be a controller who shall be
22 appointed by the director of administration pursuant to chapter 4 of title 36. The controller shall be
23 responsible for accounting and expenditure control and shall be required to:

24 (1) Administer a comprehensive accounting and recording system that will classify the
25 transactions of the state departments and agencies in accordance with the budget plan;

26 (2) Maintain control accounts for all supplies, materials, and equipment for all departments
27 and agencies except as otherwise provided by law;

28 (3) Prescribe a financial, accounting, and cost accounting system for state departments and
29 agencies;

30 (4) Identify federal grant-funding opportunities to support the governor's and general
31 assembly's major policy initiatives and provide technical assistance with the application process
32 and post-award grants management;

33 (5) Manage federal fiscal proposals and guidelines and serve as the state clearinghouse for
34 the application of federal grants;

1 (6) Pre-audit all state receipts and expenditures;

2 (7) Prepare financial statements required by the several departments and agencies, by the
3 governor, or by the general assembly;

4 (8) Approve the orders drawn on the general treasurer; provided, that the pre-audit of all
5 expenditures under authority of the legislative department and the judicial department by the state
6 controller shall be purely ministerial, concerned only with the legality of the expenditure and
7 availability of the funds, and in no event shall the state controller interpose his or her judgment
8 regarding the wisdom or expediency of any item or items of expenditure;

9 (9) Prepare and timely file, on behalf of the state, any and all reports required by the United
10 States, including, but not limited to, the Internal Revenue Service, or required by any department
11 or agency of the state, with respect to the state payroll; and

12 (10) Prepare a preliminary closing statement for each fiscal year. The controller shall
13 forward the statement to the chairpersons of the house finance committee and the senate finance
14 committee, with copies to the house fiscal advisor and the senate fiscal and policy advisor, by
15 September 1 following the fiscal year ending the prior June 30 or thirty (30) days after enactment
16 of the appropriations act, whichever is later. The report shall include but is not limited to:

17 (i) A report of all revenues received by the state in the completed fiscal year, together with
18 the estimates adopted for that year as contained in the final enacted budget, and together with all
19 deviations between estimated revenues and actual collections. The report shall also include cash
20 collections and accrual adjustments;

21 (ii) A comparison of actual expenditures with each of the actual appropriations, including
22 supplemental appropriations and other adjustments provided for in the Rhode Island general laws;

23 (iii) A statement of the opening and closing surplus in the general revenue account; and

24 (iv) A statement of the opening surplus, activity, and closing surplus in the state budget
25 reserve and cash stabilization account and the state bond capital fund.

26 (b) The controller shall provide supporting information on revenues, expenditures, capital
27 projects, and debt service upon request of the house finance committee chairperson, senate finance
28 committee chairperson, house fiscal advisor, or senate fiscal and policy advisor.

29 (c) Upon issuance of the audited annual financial statement, the controller shall provide a
30 report of the differences between the preliminary financial report and the final report as contained
31 in the audited annual financial statement.

32 (d) The controller shall create a special fund not part of the general fund and shall deposit
33 amounts equivalent to all deferred contributions under this act into that fund. Any amounts
34 remaining in the fund on June 15, 2010, shall be transferred to the general treasurer who shall

1 transfer such amounts into the retirement system as appropriate.

2 (e) Upon issuance of the audited financial statement, the controller shall transfer fifty
3 percent (50%) of all general revenues received in the completed fiscal year net of transfer to the
4 state budget reserve and cash stabilization account as required by § 35-3-20 in excess of those
5 estimates adopted for that year as contained in the final enacted budget to the employees' retirement
6 system of the State of Rhode Island as defined in § 36-8-2 and fifty percent (50%) to the
7 Supplemental State Budget Reserve Account as defined in § 35-3-20.2.

8 ~~(e)~~(f) The controller shall implement a direct deposit payroll system for state employees.

9 (1) There shall be no service charge of any type paid by the state employee at any time
10 which shall decrease the net amount of the employee's salary deposited to the financial institution
11 of the personal choice of the employee as a result of the use of direct deposit.

12 (2) Employees hired after September 30, 2014, shall participate in the direct deposit
13 system. At the time the employee is hired, the employee shall identify a financial institution that
14 will serve as a personal depository agent for the employee.

15 (3) No later than June 30, 2016, each employee hired before September 30, 2014, who is
16 not a participant in the direct deposit system, shall identify a financial institution that will serve as
17 a personal depository agent for the employee.

18 (4) The controller shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for implementation
19 and administration of the direct deposit system, which shall include limited exceptions to required
20 participation.

21 SECTION 5. Section 37-2-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-2 entitled "State
22 Purchases Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 **37-2-12. Centralization of the procurement authority.**

24 (a) All rights, powers, duties, and authority relating to the procurement of supplies,
25 services, and construction, and the management, control, warehousing, sale, and disposal of
26 supplies, services, and construction now vested in or exercised by any state agency under the
27 several statutes relating thereto are hereby transferred to the chief purchasing officer as provided
28 in this chapter, subject to the provisions of § 37-2-54. A public agency does not have to utilize the
29 centralized purchasing of the state but the public agency, through its existing internal purchasing
30 function, shall adhere to the general principles, policies and practices set forth in this chapter.

31 (b) The chief purchasing officer, as defined in § 37-2-7(3)(i), may establish, charge, and
32 collect from state contractors, listed on master-price agreements, a statewide contract
33 administrative fee not to exceed one percent (1%) of the total value of the annual spend against a
34 contract awarded to a state contractor. All statewide contract administrative fees collected pursuant

1 to this subsection shall be deposited into a restricted-receipt account within the general fund
2 designated as the “division of purchases administrative-fee account” and shall be used for the
3 purposes of implementing technology for the submission and processing of bids, online vendor
4 registration, bid notification, and other costs related to state procurement. On or before January 15,
5 2019, and annually thereafter on or before January 15, the chief purchasing officer or designee shall
6 file a report with the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate detailing:

7 (i) The total amount of funds collected and deposited into the division of purchases
8 administrative-fee account for the most recently completed fiscal year;

9 (ii) The account balance as of the date of the report;

10 (iii) An itemization of all expenditures and other uses of said funds from said account for
11 the most recently completed fiscal year; and

12 (iv) An annual evaluation as to the appropriateness of the amount of the contract
13 administrative fee on master-price agreements.

14 (c) Subject to the approval of the director of the department of administration, the state
15 controller is authorized to offset any currently recorded outstanding liability on the part of
16 developmental disability organizations (DDOs) to repay previously authorized startup capital
17 advances against the proceeds from the sale of group homes within a fiscal year prior to any sale
18 proceeds being deposited into the information technology ~~investment fund~~ [restricted receipt](#)
19 [account established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5\(a\)](#).

20 SECTION 6. Section 37-7-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-7 entitled “Management
21 and Disposal of Property” is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 **37-7-15. Sale of state-owned land, buildings and improvements thereon and other real**
23 **property.**

24 (a) Total annual proceeds from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements
25 thereon, and other real property, title to which is vested in the state of Rhode Island or title to which
26 will be vested in the state upon completion of any condemnation or other proceedings, shall be
27 transferred to [the information technology restricted receipt account \(ITRR account\)](#) and made
28 available for the purposes outlined in § 42-11-2.5(a), unless otherwise prohibited by federal law.

29 (b) Provided, however, this shall not include proceeds from the sale of any land and the
30 buildings and improvements thereon that will be created by the relocation of interstate route 195,
31 which is sometimes collectively referred to as the “I-195 Surplus Land,” which land is identified
32 in the “Rhode Island Interstate 195 Relocation Surplus Land: Redevelopment and Market Analysis”
33 prepared by CKS Architecture & Urban Design dated 2009, and such term means those certain
34 tracts or parcels of land situated in the city of Providence, county of Providence, state of Rhode

1 Island, delineated on that certain plan of land captioned “Improvements to Interstate Route 195,
2 Providence, Rhode Island, Proposed Development Parcel Plans 1 through 10, Scale: 1”

3 (c) Subject to the approval of the director of the department of administration, the state
4 controller is authorized to offset any currently recorded outstanding liability on the part of
5 developmental disability organizations (DDOs) to repay previously authorized startup capital
6 advances against the proceeds from the sale of group homes within a fiscal year prior to any sale
7 proceeds being deposited into the information technology investment fund.

8 SECTION 7. Section. 39-18.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-18.1 entitled
9 "Transportation Investment and Debt Reduction Act of 2011" is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 **39-18.1-4. Rhode Island highway maintenance account created.**

11 (a) There is hereby created a special account in the intermodal surface transportation fund
12 as established in § 31-36-20 that is to be known as the Rhode Island highway maintenance account.

13 (b) The fund shall consist of all those moneys that the state may, from time to time, direct
14 to the fund, including, but not necessarily limited to, moneys derived from the following sources:

15 (1) There is imposed a surcharge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per vehicle or truck, other than
16 those with specific registrations set forth below in subsection (b)(1)(i). Such surcharge shall be paid
17 by each vehicle or truck owner in order to register that owner’s vehicle or truck and upon each
18 subsequent biennial registration. This surcharge shall be phased in at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00)
19 each year. The total surcharge will be ten dollars (\$10.00) from July 1, 2013, through June 30,
20 2014, twenty dollars (\$20.00) from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, and thirty dollars (\$30.00)
21 from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, and each year thereafter.

22 (i) For owners of vehicles or trucks with the following plate types, the surcharge shall be
23 as set forth below and shall be paid in full in order to register the vehicle or truck and upon each
24 subsequent renewal:

25	Plate Type	Surcharge
26	Antique	\$5.00
27	Farm	\$10.00
28	Motorcycle	\$13.00

29 (ii) For owners of trailers, the surcharge shall be one-half (½) of the biennial registration
30 amount and shall be paid in full in order to register the trailer and upon each subsequent renewal;

31 (2) There is imposed a surcharge of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per vehicle or truck, other than
32 those with specific registrations set forth in subsection (b)(2)(i) below, for those vehicles or trucks
33 subject to annual registration, to be paid annually by each vehicle or truck owner in order to register
34 that owner’s vehicle or truck and upon each subsequent annual registration. This surcharge will be

1 phased in at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) each year. The total surcharge will be five dollars (\$5.00)
2 from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, ten dollars (\$10.00) from July 1, 2014, through June 30,
3 2015, and fifteen dollars (\$15.00) from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, and each year
4 thereafter.

5 (i) For registrations of the following plate types, the surcharge shall be as set forth below
6 and shall be paid in full in order to register the plate, and upon each subsequent renewal:

7 Plate Type	8 Surcharge
9 Boat Dealer	\$6.25
10 Cycle Dealer	\$6.25
11 In-transit	\$5.00
12 Manufacturer	\$5.00
13 New Car Dealer	\$5.00
14 Used Car Dealer	\$5.00
15 Racer Tow	\$5.00
16 Transporter	\$5.00
17 Bailee	\$5.00

18 (ii) For owners of trailers, the surcharge shall be one-half (1/2) of the annual registration
19 amount and shall be paid in full in order to register the trailer and upon each subsequent renewal.

20 (iii) For owners of school buses, the surcharge will be phased in at the rate of six dollars
21 and twenty-five cents (\$6.25) each year. The total surcharge will be six dollars and twenty-five
22 cents (\$6.25) from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, and twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50)
23 from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, and each year thereafter;

24 (3) There is imposed a surcharge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per license to operate a motor
25 vehicle to be paid every five (5) years by each licensed operator of a motor vehicle. This surcharge
26 will be phased in at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00) each year. The total surcharge will be ten dollars
27 (\$10.00) from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, twenty dollars (\$20.00) from July 1, 2014,
28 through June 30, 2015, and thirty dollars (\$30.00) from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, and
29 each year thereafter. In the event that a license is issued or renewed for a period of less than five
30 (5) years, the surcharge will be prorated according to the period of time the license will be valid;

31 (4) All fees assessed pursuant to § 31-47.1-11, and chapters 3, 6, 10, and 10.1 of title 31,
32 ~~except for fees assessed pursuant to §§ 31-10-31(6) and (8),~~ shall be deposited into the Rhode
33 Island highway maintenance account, provided that for fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018 these fees
34 be transferred as follows:

(i) From July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, twenty-five percent (25%) will be deposited;

- 1 (ii) From July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, fifty percent (50%) will be deposited;
2 (iii) From July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, sixty percent (60%) will be deposited; and
3 (iv) From July 1, 2018, and each year thereafter, one hundred percent (100%) will be
4 deposited;

5 (5) All remaining funds from previous general obligation bond issues that have not
6 otherwise been allocated.

7 (c) Effective July 1, 2019, ninety-five percent (95%) of all funds collected pursuant to this
8 section shall be deposited in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account and shall be used only
9 for the purposes set forth in this chapter. The remaining funds shall be retained as general revenues
10 to partially offset cost of collections

11 (d) Unexpended balances and any earnings thereon shall not revert to the general fund but
12 shall remain in the Rhode Island highway maintenance account. There shall be no requirement that
13 monies received into the Rhode Island highway maintenance account during any given calendar
14 year or fiscal year be expended during the same calendar year or fiscal year.

15 (e) The Rhode Island highway maintenance account shall be administered by the director,
16 who shall allocate and spend monies from the fund only in accordance with the purposes and
17 procedures set forth in this chapter.

18 SECTION 8. Section 39-21.1-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-21.1 entitled "911
19 Emergency Telephone Number Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **39-21.1-14. E-911 surcharge and first response surcharge.**

21 (a)(1) A monthly E-911 surcharge of fifty cents (\$.50) is hereby levied upon each residence
22 and business telephone line or trunk, or path and data, telephony, internet, voice over internet
23 protocol (VoIP) wireline, line, trunk, or path in the state including PBX trunks and centrex
24 equivalent trunks and each line or trunk serving, and upon each user interface number or extension
25 number or similarly identifiable line, trunk, or path to or from a digital network (such as, but not
26 exclusive of, integrated services digital network (ISDN), Flexpath, or comparable digital private
27 branch exchange, or connecting to or from a customer-based or dedicated telephone switch site
28 (such as, but not exclusive of, a private branch exchange (PBX)), or connecting to or from a
29 customer-based or dedicated central office (such as, but not exclusive of, a centrex system but
30 exclusive of trunks and lines provided to wireless communication companies) that can access to,
31 connect with, or interface with the Rhode Island E-911 uniform emergency telephone system (RI
32 E-911). In each instance where a surcharge is levied pursuant to this subsection (a)(1) there shall
33 also be a monthly first response surcharge of fifty cents (\$.50). The surcharges shall be billed by
34 each telecommunication services provider at the inception of services and shall be payable to the

1 telecommunication services provider by the subscriber of the services.

2 (2) A monthly E-911 surcharge of fifty cents (\$.50) is hereby levied on each wireless
3 instrument, device, or means, including prepaid, cellular, telephony, internet, voice over internet
4 protocol (VoIP), satellite, computer, radio, communication, data or data only wireless lines, or any
5 other wireless instrument, device, or means that has access to, connects with, or activates or
6 interfaces or any combination thereof with the E-911 uniform emergency telephone system. In each
7 instance where a surcharge is levied pursuant to this subsection (a)(2) there shall also be a monthly
8 first response surcharge of seventy-five cents (\$.75). The surcharges shall be billed by each
9 telecommunication services provider and shall be payable to the telecommunication services
10 provider by the subscriber. Prepaid wireless telecommunications services shall not be included in
11 this act, but shall be governed by chapter 21.2 of this title. The E-911 uniform emergency telephone
12 system shall establish, by rule or regulation, an appropriate funding mechanism to recover from the
13 general body of ratepayers this surcharge.

14 (b) The amount of the surcharges shall not be subject to the tax imposed under chapter 18
15 of title 44 nor be included within the telephone common carrier's gross earnings for the purpose of
16 computing the tax under chapter 13 of title 44.

17 (c) Each telephone common carrier and each telecommunication services provider shall
18 establish a special account to which it shall deposit on a monthly basis the amounts collected as
19 surcharges under this section.

20 (d) The money collected by each telecommunication services provider shall be transferred
21 within sixty (60) days after its inception of wireline, wireless, prepaid, cellular, telephony, voice
22 over internet protocol (VoIP), satellite, computer, internet, or communications services in this state
23 and every month thereafter, to the division of taxation, together with the accrued interest. The E-
24 911 surcharge shall be deposited in a restricted-receipt account and used solely for the operation of
25 the E-911 uniform emergency telephone system. The first response surcharge shall be deposited in
26 the general fund; provided, however, that ten percent (10%) of the money collected from the first
27 response surcharge shall be deposited in the information technology ~~investment fund~~ [restricted](#)
28 [receipt account \(ITRR account\)](#) established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(a). Any money not transferred
29 in accordance with this subsection shall be assessed interest at the rate set forth in § 44-1-7 from
30 the date the money should have been transferred.

31 (e) Every billed subscriber-user shall be liable for any surcharge imposed under this section
32 until it has been paid to the telephone common carrier or telecommunication services provider. Any
33 surcharge shall be added to and shall be stated separately in the billing by the telephone common
34 carrier or telecommunication services provider and shall be collected by the telephone common

1 carrier or telecommunication services provider.

2 (f) Each telephone common carrier and telecommunication services provider shall annually
3 provide the E-911 uniform emergency telephone system division, or any other agency that may
4 replace it, with a list of amounts uncollected, together with the names and addresses of its
5 subscriber-users who can be determined by the telephone common carrier or telecommunication
6 services provider to have not paid the E-911 surcharge.

7 (g) Included within, but not limited to, the purposes for which the money collected from
8 the E-911 surcharge may be used, are rent, lease, purchase, improvement, construction,
9 maintenance, repair, and utilities for the equipment and site or sites occupied by the E-911 uniform
10 emergency telephone system; salaries, benefits, and other associated personnel costs; acquisition,
11 upgrade, or modification of PSAP equipment to be capable of receiving E-911 information,
12 including necessary computer hardware, software, and database provisioning, addressing, and non-
13 recurring costs of establishing emergency services; network development, operation, and
14 maintenance; database development, operation, and maintenance; on-premise equipment
15 maintenance and operation; training emergency service personnel regarding use of E-911;
16 educating consumers regarding the operations, limitations, role, and responsible use of E-911;
17 reimbursement to telephone common carriers or telecommunication services providers of rates or
18 recurring costs associated with any services, operation, administration, or maintenance of E-911
19 services as approved by the division; reimbursement to telecommunication services providers or
20 telephone common carriers of other costs associated with providing E-911 services, including the
21 cost of the design, development, and implementation of equipment or software necessary to provide
22 E-911 service information to PSAPs, as approved by the division.

23 (h) [Deleted by P.L. 2000, ch. 55, art. 28, § 1.]

24 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to constitute rate regulation of wireless
25 communication services carriers, nor shall this section be construed to prohibit wireless
26 communication services carriers from charging subscribers for any wireless service or feature.

27 (j) [Deleted by P.L. 2006, ch. 246, art. 4, § 1.]

28 SECTION 9. Section 42-9-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-9 entitled "Department
29 of Attorney General" is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 ~~**42-9-19. Acceptance of settlements — Attorney General settlement restricted account**~~
31 ~~**Acceptance of settlements -- Multi-state initiatives -- Attorney general settlement restricted**~~
32 ~~**account.**~~

33 (a) The attorney general is hereby authorized and empowered to accept in the name of the
34 state any settlement resulting from a multi-state initiative. The attorney general is additionally

1 authorized and empowered to recover attorney's fees and costs that shall be considered settlement
2 proceeds for purposes of this chapter.

3 (b) The settlement proceeds shall be transferred to the general treasurer for deposit in the
4 general fund. The general treasurer shall transfer proceeds, up to seven hundred and fifty thousand
5 dollars (\$750,000) in any fiscal year, to the "attorney general multi-state initiative restricted-receipt
6 account." Any balance in excess of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) remaining
7 in the account at the end of the fiscal year shall be transferred back to the state general fund. The
8 restricted-receipt account shall be used to pay for staff, operational, and litigation costs associated
9 with multi-state initiatives.

10 (c) Expenditure of all settlement proceeds accepted by the attorney general as part of the
11 terms of the relevant master settlement agreement shall be subject to the annual appropriation
12 process and approval by the general assembly.

13 SECTION 10. Chapter 42-9 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Attorney
14 General" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

15 **42-9-19.1. Acceptance of settlements -- Non-Multi-state initiatives -- Attorney general**
16 **settlement restricted account.**

17 (a) There is hereby established a restricted receipt account within the Department of
18 Attorney General entitled "attorney general non-multi-state initiative restricted-receipt account."
19 Funds consisting of attorneys' fees previously recovered pursuant to the Distributors -- Rhode
20 Island Settlement Agreement resolving opioid-related claims against McKesson Corporation,
21 Cardinal Health, Inc., and/or AmerisourceBergen Corporation in the case State of Rhode Island v.
22 Purdue Pharma L.P. et al., CA No. PC-2018-4455, shall be deposited into this restricted receipt
23 account.

24 (b) The following funds shall also be deposited into this restricted receipt account:

25 (1) All future attorneys' fees recovered from the case referenced in subsection (a) of this
26 section; and

27 (2) Twenty percent (20%) of attorneys' fees recovered in other non-multi-state initiatives.

28 (c) This restricted receipt account shall be used to pay for staff and other operational
29 expenses of the Department.

30 (d) Expenditures from this restricted receipt account shall be subject to the annual
31 appropriation process and approval by the general assembly.

32 (e) All settlement proceeds from non-multi-state initiatives, except those deposited in this
33 restricted receipt account pursuant to this section, shall be deposited into the general fund.

34 SECTION 11. Sections 42-11-2.5, 42-11-2.6 and 42-11-2.8 of the General Laws in Chapter

1 42-11 entitled "Department of Administration" are hereby amended to read as follows:

2 **42-11-2.5. ~~Information technology investment fund~~ Information technology restricted**
3 **receipt account and large systems initiatives fund.**

4 (a) All sums from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements thereon, and
5 other real property, title to which is vested in the state, except as provided in §§ 37-7-15(b) and 37-
6 7-15(c), shall be transferred to an information technology ~~investment fund~~ restricted-receipt
7 account (ITRR account) that is hereby established. This ~~fund~~ ITRR account shall consist of such
8 sums from the sale of any land and the buildings and improvements thereon, and other real property,
9 title to which is vested in the state, except as provided in §§ 37-7-15(b) and 37-7-15(c), as well as
10 a share of first response surcharge revenues collected under the provisions of § 39-21.1-14. This
11 ~~fund~~ ITRR account may also consist of such sums as the state may from time to time appropriate;
12 as well as money received from the disposal of information technology ~~equipment~~hardware, loan,
13 interest, and service charge payments from benefiting state agencies; as well as interest earnings,
14 money received from the federal government, gifts, bequest, donations, or otherwise from any
15 public or private source. Any such funds shall be exempt from the indirect cost recovery provisions
16 of § 35-4-27.

17 ~~(b)(1)~~ This ~~fund~~ ITRR account shall be used for the purpose of acquiring information
18 technology improvements, including, but not limited to: hardware, software, consulting services,
19 and ongoing maintenance and upgrade contracts for state departments and agencies.

20 ~~(c)(2)~~ The division of enterprise technology strategy and service of the Rhode Island
21 department of administration shall adopt rules and regulations consistent with the purposes of this
22 chapter and chapter 35 of this title, in order to provide for the orderly and equitable disbursement
23 of funds from this ITRR account.

24 ~~(d)(3)~~ For all requests for proposals that are issued for information technology projects, a
25 corresponding information technology project manager shall be assigned.

26 (b) There is also hereby established a special fund to be known as the large systems
27 initiatives fund (LSI fund), separate and apart from the general fund of the state, to be administered
28 by the chief information officer within the department of administration for the purpose of
29 implementing and maintaining enterprise-wide software projects for executive branch departments.
30 The LSI fund shall consist of such sums as the state may from time to time directly appropriate to
31 the LSI fund. After the completion of any project, the chief digital officer shall inform the state
32 controller of unexpended sums previously transferred to the LSI Fund for that project and the state
33 controller shall subsequently transfer any such unexpended funds to the information technology
34 restricted receipt account.

1 [\(c\) For any new project initiated using sums expended from the LSI Fund, as part of its](#)
2 [budget submission pursuant to § 35-3-4 relative to state fiscal year 2025 and thereafter, the](#)
3 [department of administration shall include a statement of project purpose and the estimated project](#)
4 [cost.](#)

5 **42-11-2.6. Office of Digital Excellence established.**

6 (a) Within the department, division of enterprise technology strategy and services, there
7 shall be established the Office of Digital Excellence. The purposes of the office shall be to move
8 Rhode Island state government into the 21st century through the incorporation of innovation and
9 modern digital capabilities throughout state government and to leverage technology to expand and
10 improve the quality of services provided to Rhode Island citizens; to promote greater access to
11 government and the internet throughout cities and towns; and to position Rhode Island as a national
12 leader in e-government.

13 (b) Within the office, there shall be a chief digital officer who shall be appointed by the
14 director of administration with the approval of the governor and who shall be in the unclassified
15 service. The chief digital officer shall report to the director of administration and be required to:

16 (1) Manage the implementation of all new and mission-critical technology infrastructure
17 projects and upgrades for state agencies. The division of enterprise technology strategy and
18 services, established pursuant to § 42-11-2.8, shall continue to manage and support all day-to-day
19 operations of the state's technology infrastructure, telecommunications, and associated
20 applications;

21 (2) Increase the number of government services that can be provided online in order to
22 allow residents and businesses to complete transactions in a more efficient and transparent manner;

23 (3) Improve the state's websites to provide timely information to online users and as many
24 government services as possible online; and

25 (4) Establish, improve, and enhance the state's use of social media and mobile
26 technological applications.

27 (c) The office shall coordinate its efforts with the division of enterprise technology strategy
28 and services in order to plan, allocate, and implement projects supported by the information
29 technology ~~investment fund~~ [restricted receipt account \(ITRR account\)](#) established pursuant to § 42-
30 11-2.5(a) and the [large systems initiatives fund \(LSI fund\)](#) established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(b).

31 (d) All intellectual property created as a result of work undertaken by employees of the
32 office shall remain the property of the state of Rhode Island. Any patents applied for shall be in the
33 name of the state.

34 (e) The director of administration may promulgate rules and regulations recommended by

1 the chief digital officer in order to effectuate the purposes and requirements of this act.

2 (f) The chief digital officer shall report no later than January 31, 2013, and every January
3 31 thereafter, to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the senate president
4 regarding the implementation status of all technology infrastructure projects; website
5 improvements; number of e-government transactions and revenues generated; projects supported
6 by the information technology investment fund; and all other activities undertaken by the office.
7 The report shall also include planned use for projects related to public safety communications and
8 emergency services, recommendations on the development of and opportunities for shared
9 implementation and delivery of these services among municipalities, and strategies for such shared
10 services. The annual report shall be posted on the office's website.

11 **42-11-2.8. Division of enterprise technology strategy and services established.**

12 (a) Established. Within the department there shall be established the division of enterprise
13 technology strategy and service (ETSS), which shall include the office of information technology,
14 the office of digital excellence (ODE), and the office of library and information services (OLIS).
15 Within ETSS, there shall be a chief digital officer in the unclassified service who shall oversee and
16 manage the division and shall be appointed by the director of administration. Any prior reference
17 in statute to the division of information technology shall now mean ETSS. The chief digital officer
18 shall supervise the state's chief information officer, chief technology officer, chief information
19 security officer, the directors of information technology, and all associated employees. The chief
20 digital officer may promulgate rules and regulations in order to effectuate the purposes and
21 requirements of this act.

22 (b) Purposes; duties. The purposes of ETSS shall be to align existing and future technology
23 platforms, along with technical expertise, across the agencies of the executive branch. ETSS shall
24 be responsible for managing and consolidating the strategy and budgets of the division, including
25 the office of information technology, the office of library and information services and the office
26 of digital excellence, and the information technology investment fund. The focus of ETSS will be
27 to lead the strategic technology decisions and efforts across all of the executive branch state
28 agencies; identify opportunities to implement technology solutions across state agencies to prevent
29 duplication of systems and effort; as well as effectively support these solutions in an efficient
30 manner. ETSS shall have the following duties:

31 (1) Manage the implementation of all new and mission-critical technology infrastructure
32 projects and upgrades for state agencies. The office of information technology, under ETSS, shall
33 manage and support all day-to-day operations of the state's technology infrastructure,
34 telecommunications, and associated applications;

1 (2) Manage the office of digital excellence in order to ensure that large-scale technology
2 projects are delivered in a timely manner in accordance with accepted best-industry practices;

3 (3) To oversee the chief of library services and the office of library and information services
4 to ensure that this office fulfills its statutory duties in an effective manner;

5 (4) Coordinate efforts with the director of administration in order to plan, allocate, and
6 implement projects supported by the information technology ~~investment fund~~ restricted receipt
7 account (ITRR account) established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(a) and the large systems initiatives
8 fund (LSI fund) established pursuant to § 42-11-2.5(b);

9 (5) Supervise all intellectual property created as a result of work undertaken by employees
10 of ETSS to ensure that ownership of this intellectual property remains with the state. Any patents
11 applied for shall be in the name of the state.

12 (c) Reporting. The chief digital officer shall annually report no later than January 31 to the
13 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the senate president regarding the
14 implementation status of all technology infrastructure projects; website improvements; number of
15 e-government transactions and revenues generated; projects supported by the information
16 technology investment fund; and all other activities undertaken by the division. The annual report
17 shall be posted on the ETSS website.

18 SECTION 12. This article shall take effect upon passage.