

ARTICLE 7 AS AMENDED

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 1. Sections 5-21-1 and 5-21-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-21 entitled “Second-Hand Dealers” is hereby amended to read as follows:

5-21-1 Local licensing – Fees – Penalty – Record of transaction.

(a) The city or town council of any city or town is authorized to provide by ordinance for the issuing and revocation at pleasure of licenses to all persons selling, purchasing, bartering, and dealing in junk, old metals, and any other second-hand metal articles, and to all persons establishing, operating, or maintaining automobile junkyards, subject to any conditions and restrictions and for a term not exceeding one year that may be in the like manner prescribed; and also for charging and collecting fees for those licenses. The fees in the like manner prescribed shall not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) for the keeper of ~~a shop~~ an establishment or storehouse for the reception of any junk, old metals, or second-hand metal articles which is not an automobile junkyard; the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for any foundry person or other person receiving the same for the purpose of melting or converting the junk, old metals, or second-hand metal articles into castings; the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for any gatherer of these items in any bag, wagon, or cart; or the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) for any person establishing, operating, or maintaining an automobile junkyard; and also to fix a penalty for carrying on that business without a license, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation made as authorized in this chapter, not exceeding for any one offense a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months.

(b) The ordinance shall provide that each person purchasing or receiving old or used metals other than junked automobiles or automobile parts shall maintain a record of each purchase or receipt. The record shall include the date of the transaction, the name, address, telephone number, and signature of the person from whom the old or used metals are purchased or received; a description of the old or used metals; and the price paid for the old or used metals. The records so kept shall be produced at the request of law enforcement officials.

(c) Businesses primarily engaged in the retail sale of the following goods, as expressly defined below in this subsection, are exempt from any licensing requirements imposed under this section: (1) second-hand consignment goods; (2) resale goods; (3) thrift goods; and (4) antiques.

1 “Second-hand consignment goods” means used items, including but not limited to artwork,
2 furniture, clothing, accessories and books that are sold by a third party, which receives a percentage
3 of the revenue from the sale. “Resale goods” means goods, including but not limited to artwork,
4 furniture, clothing, accessories, and books, that are purchased from the original owner and resold.
5 “Thrift goods” means used items, including but not limited to artwork, furniture, clothing,
6 accessories, and books, that are sold by or on behalf of a charity or non-profit organization.
7 “Antiques” means items made in an earlier period that are collected and considered to have value
8 because they are beautiful, rare, old, or of high quality.

9 **5-21-2 Hearing and objections by neighboring landowners.**

10 (a) The local licensing authority of a city or town, before granting a license under this
11 chapter to keep ~~a shop~~ an establishment or storehouse for the reception of any junk, old metals, or
12 other second-hand metal articles or to establish, operate, or maintain an automobile junkyard, in
13 any location not lawfully occupied for that purpose at the time of the application for that license,
14 shall hold a public hearing, notice of which shall be posted at least seven (7) days but not more than
15 fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing in not less than two (2) public places in that city or town and
16 in a newspaper of general circulation in that city or town where the ~~shop~~ establishment, storehouse,
17 or junkyard is to be established, operated, or maintained. Before the local licensing authority posts
18 or publishes a notice of a hearing, the local licensing authority shall collect from the applicant for
19 the license a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), plus the cost of posting and publishing the notice.

20 (b) No license shall be granted under this chapter to the keeper of any ~~shop~~ establishment
21 or storehouse for the reception of any junk, old metals, or other second-hand metal articles or to a
22 person establishing, operating, or maintaining an automobile junkyard, in any location not lawfully
23 occupied for that purpose at the time of the application for the license, where the owners or
24 occupants of the greater part of the land within two hundred (200) feet of that building or place file
25 with the board, city or town council, respectively, having jurisdiction to grant licenses, their
26 objection to the granting of the license. This subsection does not apply to any applicant who is the
27 keeper of ~~a shop~~ an establishment or storehouse, or automobile junkyard, that is being acquired
28 under eminent domain proceedings, who is applying for licensing within § 5-21-1 within the same
29 city or town in which he or she was formerly licensed.

30 SECTION 2. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
31 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

32 CHAPTER 99

33 THE RHODE ISLAND LIFE SCIENCE HUB ACT

34 **23-99-1. Short title.**

1 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Rhode Island Life Science Hub Act".

2 **23-99-2. Legislative purpose.**

3 The purpose of this chapter shall be to create and lawfully manage the Rhode Island Life
4 Science Hub, a public corporation. The Rhode Island Life Science Hub shall be the central entity
5 and coordinating organization of life science initiatives on behalf of the state and shall:

6 (1) Facilitate the development of medical advances and scientific breakthroughs with
7 companies who specialize in the fields of: medical devices, biomedical technology, medical
8 therapeutic therapies, biogenetics, biomedical engineering, biopharmaceuticals, genomics, and life
9 sciences; and,

10 (2) Through targeted investment of grants, tax credits, and incentives, fund and incubate
11 Rhode Island-based life science companies that will promote economic and workforce development
12 within the state and that shall allow the state to successfully compete in the national and
13 international life science industries.

14 **23-99-3. Definitions.**

15 As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following meanings:

16 (1) "Affiliate" means any person or company that directly or indirectly controls or is
17 controlled by or is under direct or indirect common control of another company or person including,
18 but not limited to, any company that is merged or consolidated, or which purchases all or
19 substantially all of the assets of another company.

20 (2) "Board" means the board of directors of the Hub.

21 (3) "Certification proposal" means a written proposal submitted by a life science company
22 for approval as a certified life sciences company.

23 (4) "Certified life sciences company" means a company that has been certified by the board
24 as being eligible to receive grants and incentives from the investment fund.

25 (5) "Commerce corporation" means the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation, established
26 pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-64-1, et seq.

27 (6) "Company" means a business corporation, partnership, firm, unincorporated
28 association, or other entity engaged or proposing to engage in economic activity within the state,
29 and any affiliate thereof.

30 (7) "Hub" means the Rhode Island life science hub established by § 23-99-4.

31 (8) "Investment fund" means the hub investment fund established by § 23-99-6.

32 (9) "Life science" means and shall include, but not be limited to the science of: medical
33 devices, biomedical technology, medical therapeutic therapies, biogenetics, biomedical
34 engineering, biopharmaceuticals, genomics, biomanufacturing, diagnostics, digital health, and

1 related fields.

2 (10) "Life science company" means a company engaged in life science research,
3 development, manufacturing, incubation, or commercialization in Rhode Island, and any affiliate
4 thereof.

5 (11) "Life sciences industry" means the fields of medical devices, biomedical technology,
6 medical therapeutic therapies, biogenetics, biomedical engineering, biopharmaceuticals, genomics,
7 biomanufacturing, diagnostics, digital health and related fields.

8 (12) "Person" means a natural person, company, or other legal entity.

9 (13) "State" means the State of Rhode Island.

10 (14) "Venture" means, without limitation, any contractual arrangement with any person
11 whereby the corporation obtains rights from or in an invention or product or proceeds therefrom,
12 or rights to obtain from any person any and all forms of equity instruments including, but not limited
13 to, common and preferred stock, warrants, options, convertible debentures and similar types of
14 instruments exercisable or convertible into capital stock, in exchange for the granting of financial
15 aid to such person.

16 **23-99-4. Rhode Island life science hub established.**

17 (a) There is hereby constituted as an independent public a public corporation for the
18 purposes set forth in this chapter with a separate legal existence from the state to be known as the
19 Rhode Island life science hub hereinafter to be referred as the "hub". The exercise by the hub of
20 the powers conferred by this chapter shall be considered to be the performance of an essential
21 governmental function.

22 (b) The hub shall be governed and its corporate powers exercised by a board of directors
23 consisting of fifteen (15) directors: seven (7) of whom shall be appointed by the governor, one of
24 whom shall be a senior executive with extensive background in the banking, grant making, and
25 fundraising fields, one of whom shall be a member of a life science trade association, or his or her
26 designee, one of whom shall be the president or a senior executive of a Rhode Island based life
27 science company, or his or her designee, two (2) of whom shall be senior executives of Rhode
28 Island based life science companies specializing in biomanufacturing, or his or her designees, one
29 of whom shall be a representative of organized labor, or his or her designee, and one of whom shall
30 be a member of the public who shall be a certified public accountant and a member of the Rhode
31 Island society of certified public accountants; one of whom shall be the secretary of commerce;
32 three (3) of whom shall be the president of Rhode Island college, or his or her designee, the
33 president of the university of Rhode Island, or his or her designee, and the president of Brown
34 university, or his or her designee; one of whom shall be the dean of the Warren Alpert Medical

1 School of Brown university, or his or her designee; one of whom shall be the president and chief
2 executive officer of the Lifespan Corporation, or his or her designee; one of whom shall be the
3 president and chief executive officer of Care New England Health System, or his or her designee;
4 and one of whom shall be an ex officio director who shall also be the director of economic
5 development for the city of Providence, or his or her designee.

6 (c) The chair of the board shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent
7 of the senate, and shall be an individual who served in the capacity as a senior executive with
8 extensive background in the banking, grant making, and fundraising fields. The vice-chair of the
9 board shall be the secretary of commerce. Eight (8) directors shall constitute a quorum, and any
10 action to be taken by the board under the provisions of this chapter may be authorized by resolution
11 approved by a majority of the directors present and entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting
12 at which a quorum is present. No votes on the certification of any life science company nor on the
13 allocation or award of any fund resources to any certified life science company shall be taken unless
14 the chair is present and voting. A vacancy in the membership of the board of directors shall not
15 impair the right of a quorum to exercise all of the rights and perform all of the duties of the board.
16 Pursuant to § 42-46-5(b)(6), board directors are authorized to participate remotely using
17 videoconferencing technology in open public meetings of the board; provided, however, that:

18 (1) The remote director(s) and all persons present at the meeting location are clearly audible
19 and visible to each other;

20 (2) A quorum of the body is participating, either in person or by the use of remote
21 videoconferencing technology;

22 (3) A member of the board who participates in a meeting of the board remotely shall be
23 considered present for purposes of a quorum and voting;

24 (4) If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice for the meeting
25 shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used and include instructions on how the
26 public can access the virtual meeting; and

27 (5) The board shall adopt rules defining the requirements of remote participation including
28 its use for executive session, and the conditions by which a director is authorized to participate
29 remotely.

30 (d) Each board member shall serve a term of four (4) years. In the event that the chair of
31 the board position becomes vacant for any reason, or the chair is not able to perform the duties of
32 that position for any reason, the vice chair shall serve as the interim chair until the chair is able to
33 resume his or her duties; provided, however, in the event that the chair is not able to resume his or
34 her duties in that position, the governor shall appoint a new chair and, in making this appointment,

1 the governor shall give due consideration to appointing an individual from a list of six (6)
2 candidates, three (3) of whom shall be provided to the governor by the speaker of the house and
3 three (3) of whom shall be provided to the governor by the president of the senate. Any person
4 appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of an appointed director of the board shall be appointed in
5 a like manner and shall serve for the unexpired term of such director. Any director shall be eligible
6 for reappointment.

7 (e) The director of the board who is a member of the public and who is a certified public
8 accountant and a member of the Rhode Island society of certified public accountants shall serve as
9 treasurer and shall be charged with keeping the funds, books of account and accounting records of
10 the hub. No grants, tax credits, or incentives shall be issued by the hub to any certified life science
11 company without the approval of the board and the signature of the treasurer. The board shall
12 annually elect a secretary who shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board and shall be
13 custodian of all books, documents, and papers.

14 (f) Board Directors shall serve without compensation, but each director shall be entitled to
15 reimbursement for actual, reasonable, and necessary expenses while engaged in the performance
16 of official duties. Board directors, officers, and employees shall not be liable to the state, the hub,
17 or to any other person as a result of their activities except for malfeasance in office or intentional
18 violations of law.

19 (g) The board shall establish an application review committee consisting of not less than
20 three (3) directors of the board, which shall review certification proposals submitted by life sciences
21 companies that shall be supported by independently verifiable information, and the board shall
22 make a record of findings based on the certification proposal, documents submitted therewith, and
23 any additional evidence that the life science company meets all criteria that the hub may prescribe.

24 (h) Certified life science companies shall be eligible to receive funding from the hub, upon
25 a majority vote of the board, for the following benefits which shall be awarded by the board on a
26 competitive basis:

- 27 (1) Grants, loans, or other investments;
- 28 (2) Assistance from the hub in obtaining federal, state, and nonprofit monies; or
- 29 (3) Assistance from the hub in facilitating clinical trials.

30 (i) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law in relation to their tenure of office, the
31 governor may remove any board director for the neglect of any duty required by law, incompetence,
32 unprofessional conduct, or willful misconduct.

33 (j) Each director shall make full disclosure, in accordance with §§ 36-14-1 through 36-14-
34 7, of any financial interest, if any, in any matter before the board. Such interest must be disclosed

1 in advance to the directors of the board, recorded in the minutes of the board, and the director
2 having such an interest shall recuse themselves and shall not participate in any decision of the board
3 relating to such interest.

4 (k) With the advice and consent of the senate, the board shall have the power to hire a
5 president, who shall also serve as the chief executive officer of the hub. The board also shall have
6 the power to establish compensation and conditions of employment for the president and chief
7 executive officer; provided, further, the board shall have the power to hire other employees and
8 establish compensation and conditions of employment for such employees.

9 (l) The commerce corporation shall provide operating quarters for the hub for, at a
10 minimum, the first year of the hub's operation.

11 **23-99-5. Hub powers.**

12 (a) The hub shall have the following powers and all powers necessary to carry out and
13 effectuate its purposes, including, without limitation, all powers necessary for the performance of
14 the following:

15 (1) To have perpetual succession as a public corporate body and agency of the state and to
16 adopt bylaws, rules, regulations, and procedures for its governance and conduct of its business;

17 (2) To act as the central entity and coordinating organization of life sciences initiatives on
18 behalf of the state and to work in collaboration with governmental entities, bodies, centers, hubs,
19 and facilities to promote life sciences;

20 (3) To engage accountants, architects, attorneys, engineers, planners, real estate experts,
21 and other consultants as may be necessary in its judgment to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

22 (4) To obtain insurance for board directors, officers, and employees in order to indemnify
23 said persons against the claims of others;

24 (5) To administer the investment fund, for the purposes of making appropriations,
25 allocations, grants, or loans;

26 (6) To apply for and accept contributions of any source of money, property, labor, or any
27 other things of value and to invest, disburse, appropriate, grant, loan, or allocate any funds for the
28 purpose of investing in any life science initiative;

29 (7) To create access to capital, funding, and business support programs;

30 (8) To enter into venture agreements with persons, upon such terms and on such conditions
31 as are consistent with the purposes of this chapter, for the advancement of financial aid to such
32 persons for the research, development and application of specific technologies, products,
33 procedures, services and techniques, to be developed and produced in this state, and to condition
34 such agreements upon contractual assurances that the benefits of increasing or maintaining

1 employment and tax revenues shall remain in this state and shall accrue to it;

2 (9) To enter into contracts and agreements to further scientific research in the state, aid in
3 the promotion of the health of residents, foster jobs in the life sciences, and promote overall
4 economic growth in the life sciences industry; and

5 (10) To issue bonds, notes, and any other obligations of the hub, subject to the provisions
6 of chapter 18 of title 35 ("Rhode Island public corporation debt management").

7 **23-99-6. Hub investment fund.**

8 (a) There shall be established and placed within the hub, a fund or funds to be known as
9 the Rhode Island life science investment fund, hereinafter referred to as the "fund", to be held by
10 the hub to finance the operations and initiatives of the hub. The fund shall be credited any
11 appropriations, bond proceeds, federal grants or loans, or other such additional funds as are subject
12 to the direction and control of the hub, which may properly be applied in furtherance of the
13 objectives of the hub.

14 (b) The fund shall be held and applied by the hub to make qualified investments, grants,
15 research and other funding, and loans designed to advance public purposes for the life science
16 industry in the state and shall use the fund for such purposes.

17 (c) The state shall not be liable for the payment of the principal of, or interest on, any bonds
18 or notes of the hub, or for the performance of any pledge, mortgage, obligation, or agreement of
19 any kind whatsoever which may be undertaken by the hub, and none of the bonds or notes of the
20 hub nor any of its agreements or obligations shall be construed to constitute an indebtedness of the
21 state. Payments related to any transaction involving, or investment by, the hub shall be payable
22 solely from the fund.

23 (d) The board shall promulgate rules, regulations or guidelines necessary to carry out the
24 provisions of this section.

25 **23-99-7. Annual reports.**

26 (a) The hub shall submit a report, beginning on or before October 1, 2024, and on October
27 1 annually thereafter, to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. This
28 report shall include:

29 (1) The hub's receipts and expenditures during such fiscal year;

30 (2) The hub's assets and liabilities at the end of its fiscal year;

31 (3) A list of all certified life sciences companies;

32 (4) A complete list of grants awarded by the hub and any other funding activities;

33 (5) Reports of patents or products resulting from funded activities;

34 (6) The status of construction of any real estate project resulting from certification.

1 including whether construction is on-time and on-budget;

2 (7) Any federal initiatives that have an impact on life science companies doing business in
3 the state; and

4 (8) Any concerns surrounding pending or threatened litigation, pending legislation both
5 state and federal, or any other known material risks.

6 **23-99-8. Accountability and audit.**

7 (a) The board shall be responsible for establishing accountability standards, reporting
8 standards, and outcome measurements for all of its expenditures, including all investments and
9 grants.

10 (b) The board and the hub shall comply with provisions of chapter 155 of title 42, ("quasi-
11 public corporations accountability and transparency act").

12 (c) In addition to the requirements pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this
13 section and § 42-155-7, the books and records of the hub shall be audited by an outside audit firm
14 selected and paid for by the Hub, in accordance with Rhode Island General Law 35-7-13 at least
15 on an annual basis, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and generally
16 accepted government auditing standards.

17 **23-99-9. Severability.**

18 If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this chapter is held to be invalid or
19 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, that holding shall not affect any other
20 section, clause, or provision of this chapter which is not in and of itself unconstitutional.

21 SECTION 3. Section 42-46-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-46 entitled "Open
22 Meetings" is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 **42-46-5. Purposes for which meeting may be closed — Use of electronic**
24 **communications — Judicial proceedings — Disruptive conduct.**

25 (a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public pursuant to § 42-46-4 for one
26 or more of the following purposes:

27 (1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a
28 person or persons provided that the person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance
29 in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

30 Failure to provide notification shall render any action taken against the person or persons
31 affected null and void. Before going into a closed meeting pursuant to this subsection, the public
32 body shall state for the record that any persons to be discussed have been so notified and this
33 statement shall be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

34 (2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to

1 collective bargaining or litigation.

2 (3) Discussion regarding the matter of security including, but not limited to, the deployment
3 of security personnel or devices.

4 (4) Any investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, either civil or
5 criminal.

6 (5) Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for
7 public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public
8 information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.

9 (6) Any discussions related to or concerning a prospective business or industry locating in
10 the state of Rhode Island when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the interest of
11 the public.

12 (7) A matter related to the question of the investment of public funds where the premature
13 disclosure would adversely affect the public interest. Public funds shall include any investment
14 plan or matter related thereto, including, but not limited to, state lottery plans for new promotions.

15 (8) Any executive sessions of a local school committee exclusively for the purposes: (i) Of
16 conducting student disciplinary hearings; or (ii) Of reviewing other matters that relate to the privacy
17 of students and their records, including all hearings of the various juvenile hearing boards of any
18 municipality; provided, however, that any affected student shall have been notified in advance in
19 writing and advised that he or she may require that the discussion be held in an open meeting.

20 Failure to provide notification shall render any action taken against the student or students
21 affected null and void. Before going into a closed meeting pursuant to this subsection, the public
22 body shall state for the record that any students to be discussed have been so notified and this
23 statement shall be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

24 (9) Any hearings on, or discussions of, a grievance filed pursuant to a collective bargaining
25 agreement.

26 (10) Any discussion of the personal finances of a prospective donor to a library.

27 (b) No meeting of members of a public body or use of electronic communication, including
28 telephonic communication and telephone conferencing, shall be used to circumvent the spirit or
29 requirements of this chapter; provided, however, these meetings and discussions are not prohibited.

30 (1) Provided, further however, that discussions of a public body via electronic
31 communication, including telephonic communication and telephone conferencing, shall be
32 permitted only to schedule a meeting, except as provided in this subsection.

33 (2) Provided, further however, that a member of a public body may participate by use of
34 electronic communication or telephone communication while on active duty in the armed services

1 of the United States.

2 (3) Provided, further however, that a member of that public body, who has a disability as
3 defined in chapter 87 of this title and:

4 (i) Cannot attend meetings of that public body solely by reason of the member's disability;
5 and

6 (ii) Cannot otherwise participate in the meeting without the use of electronic
7 communication or telephone communication as reasonable accommodation, may participate by use
8 of electronic communication or telephone communication in accordance with the process below.

9 (4) The governor's commission on disabilities is authorized and directed to:

10 (i) Establish rules and regulations for determining whether a member of a public body is
11 not otherwise able to participate in meetings of that public body without the use of electronic
12 communication or telephone communication as a reasonable accommodation due to that member's
13 disability;

14 (ii) Grant a waiver that allows a member to participate by electronic communication or
15 telephone communication only if the member's disability would prevent the member from being
16 physically present at the meeting location, and the use of such communication is the only
17 reasonable accommodation; and

18 (iii) Any waiver decisions shall be a matter of public record.

19 (5) The university of Rhode Island board of trustees members, established pursuant to §
20 16-32-2, are authorized to participate remotely in open public meetings of the board; provided,
21 however, that:

22 (i) The remote members and all persons present at the meeting location are clearly audible
23 and visible to each other;

24 (ii) A quorum of the body is participating;

25 (iii) If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice for the meeting
26 shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used and include instructions on how the
27 public can access the virtual meeting; and

28 (iv) The board shall adopt rules defining the requirements of remote participation including
29 its use for executive session, and the conditions by which a member is authorized to participate
30 remotely.

31 (6) The Rhode Island Life Science Hub board of directors, established pursuant to § 23-
32 99-4, is authorized to participate remotely in open public meetings of the board, in accordance with
33 the provisions of § 23-99-4(c).

34 (c) This chapter shall not apply to proceedings of the judicial branch of state government

1 or probate court or municipal court proceedings in any city or town.

2 (d) This chapter shall not prohibit the removal of any person who willfully disrupts a
3 meeting to the extent that orderly conduct of the meeting is seriously compromised.

4 SECTION 4. Sections 42-64.20-5 and 42-64.20-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
5 64.20 entitled "Rebuild Rhode Island Tax Credit Act" are hereby amended to read as follows:

6 **42-64.20-5. Tax credits. [Effective January 1, 2023]**

7 (a) An applicant meeting the requirements of this chapter may be allowed a credit as set
8 forth hereinafter against taxes imposed upon such person under applicable provisions of title 44 of
9 the general laws for a qualified development project.

10 (b) To be eligible as a qualified development project entitled to tax credits, an applicant's
11 chief executive officer or equivalent officer shall demonstrate to the commerce corporation, at the
12 time of application, that:

13 (1) The applicant has committed a capital investment or owner equity of not less than
14 twenty percent (20%) of the total project cost;

15 (2) There is a project financing gap in which after taking into account all available private
16 and public funding sources, the project is not likely to be accomplished by private enterprise
17 without the tax credits described in this chapter; and

18 (3) The project fulfills the state's policy and planning objectives and priorities in that:

19 (i) The applicant will, at the discretion of the commerce corporation, obtain a tax
20 stabilization agreement from the municipality in which the real estate project is located on such
21 terms as the commerce corporation deems acceptable;

22 (ii) It (A) Is a commercial development consisting of at least 25,000 square feet occupied
23 by at least one business employing at least 25 full-time employees after construction or such
24 additional full-time employees as the commerce corporation may determine; (B) Is a multi-family
25 residential development in a new, adaptive reuse, certified historic structure, or recognized
26 historical structure consisting of at least 20,000 square feet and having at least 20 residential units
27 in a hope community; or (C) Is a mixed-use development in a new, adaptive reuse, certified historic
28 structure, or recognized historical structure consisting of at least 25,000 square feet occupied by at
29 least one business, subject to further definition through rules and regulations promulgated by the
30 commerce corporation; and

31 (iii) Involves a total project cost of not less than \$5,000,000, except for a qualified
32 development project located in a hope community or redevelopment area designated under § 45-
33 32-4 in which event the commerce corporation shall have the discretion to modify the minimum
34 project cost requirement.

1 (c) The commerce corporation shall develop separate, streamlined application processes
2 for the issuance of rebuild RI tax credits for each of the following:

- 3 (1) Qualified development projects that involve certified historic structures;
- 4 (2) Qualified development projects that involve recognized historical structures;
- 5 (3) Qualified development projects that involve at least one manufacturer; and
- 6 (4) Qualified development projects that include affordable housing or workforce housing.

7 (d) Applications made for a historic structure or recognized historic structure tax credit
8 under chapter 33.6 of title 44 shall be considered for tax credits under this chapter. The division of
9 taxation, at the expense of the commerce corporation, shall provide communications from the
10 commerce corporation to those who have applied for and are in the queue awaiting the offer of tax
11 credits pursuant to chapter 33.6 of title 44 regarding their potential eligibility for the rebuild RI tax
12 credit program.

13 (e) Applicants (1) Who have received the notice referenced in subsection (d) above and
14 who may be eligible for a tax credit pursuant to chapter 33.6 of title 44, (2) Whose application
15 involves a certified historic structure or recognized historical structure, or (3) Whose project is
16 occupied by at least one manufacturer shall be exempt from the requirements of subsections
17 (b)(3)(ii) and (b)(3)(iii). The following procedure shall apply to such applicants:

18 (i) The division of taxation shall remain responsible for determining the eligibility of an
19 applicant for tax credits awarded under chapter 33.6 of title 44;

20 (ii) The commerce corporation shall retain sole authority for determining the eligibility of
21 an applicant for tax credits awarded under this chapter; and

22 (iii) The commerce corporation shall not award in excess of fifteen percent (15%) of the
23 annual amount authorized in any fiscal year to applicants seeking tax credits pursuant to this
24 subsection (e).

25 (f) Maximum project credit.

26 (1) For qualified development projects, the maximum tax credit allowed under this chapter
27 shall be the lesser of (i) Thirty percent (30%) of the total project cost; or (ii) The amount needed to
28 close a project financing gap (after taking into account all other private and public funding sources
29 available to the project), as determined by the commerce corporation.

30 (2) The credit allowed pursuant to this chapter, inclusive of any sales and use tax
31 exemptions allowed pursuant to this chapter, shall not exceed fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000)
32 for any qualified development project under this chapter; except as provided in subsection (f)(3) of
33 this section; provided however, any qualified development project that exceeds the project cap upon
34 passage of this act shall be deemed not to exceed the cap, shall not be reduced, nor shall it be further

1 increased. No building or qualified development project to be completed in phases or in multiple
2 projects shall exceed the maximum project credit of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) for all
3 phases or projects involved in the rehabilitation of the building. Provided, however, that for
4 purposes of this subsection and no more than once in a given fiscal year, the commerce corporation
5 may consider the development of land and buildings by a developer on the "I-195 land" as defined
6 in § 42-64.24-3(6) as a separate, qualified development project from a qualified development
7 project by a tenant or owner of a commercial condominium or similar legal interest including
8 leasehold improvement, fit out, and capital investment. Such qualified development project by a
9 tenant or owner of a commercial condominium or similar legal interest on the I-195 land may be
10 exempted from subsection (f)(1)(i) of this section.

11 (3) The credit allowed pursuant to this chapter, inclusive of any sales and use tax
12 exemptions allowed pursuant to this chapter, shall not exceed twenty-five million dollars
13 (\$25,000,000) for the project for which the I-195 redevelopment district was authorized to enter
14 into a purchase and sale agreement for parcels 42 and P4 on December 19, 2018, provided that
15 project is approved for credits pursuant to this chapter by the commerce corporation.

16 (g) Credits available under this chapter shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the project
17 cost, provided, however, that the applicant shall be eligible for additional tax credits of not more
18 than ten percent (10%) of the project cost, if the qualified development project meets any of the
19 following criteria or other additional criteria determined by the commerce corporation from time
20 to time in response to evolving economic or market conditions:

21 (1) The project includes adaptive reuse or development of a recognized historical structure;

22 (2) The project is undertaken by or for a targeted industry;

23 (3) The project is located in a transit-oriented development area;

24 (4) The project includes residential development of which at least twenty percent (20%) of
25 the residential units are designated as affordable housing or workforce housing;

26 (5) The project includes the adaptive reuse of property subject to the requirements of the
27 industrial property remediation and reuse act, § 23-19.14-1 et seq.; or

28 (6) The project includes commercial facilities constructed in accordance with the minimum
29 environmental and sustainability standards, as certified by the commerce corporation pursuant to
30 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or other equivalent standards.

31 (h) Maximum aggregate credits. The aggregate sum authorized pursuant to this chapter,
32 inclusive of any sales and use tax exemptions allowed pursuant to this chapter, shall not exceed
33 ~~two hundred ten million dollars (\$210,000,000)~~ two hundred twenty-five million dollars
34 (\$225,000,000), excluding any tax credits allowed pursuant to subsection (f)(3) of this section.

1 (i) Tax credits shall not be allowed under this chapter prior to the taxable year in which the
2 project is placed in service.

3 (j) The amount of a tax credit allowed under this chapter shall be allowable to the taxpayer
4 in up to five, annual increments; no more than thirty percent (30%) and no less than fifteen percent
5 (15%) of the total credits allowed to a taxpayer under this chapter may be allowable for any taxable
6 year.

7 (k) If the portion of the tax credit allowed under this chapter exceeds the taxpayer's total
8 tax liability for the year in which the relevant portion of the credit is allowed, the amount that
9 exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability may be carried forward for credit against the taxes imposed for
10 the succeeding four (4) years, or until the full credit is used, whichever occurs first. Credits allowed
11 to a partnership, a limited-liability company taxed as a partnership, or multiple owners of property
12 shall be passed through to the persons designated as partners, members, or owners respectively pro
13 rata or pursuant to an executed agreement among persons designated as partners, members, or
14 owners documenting an alternate distribution method without regard to their sharing of other tax
15 or economic attributes of such entity.

16 (l) The commerce corporation, in consultation with the division of taxation, shall establish,
17 by regulation, the process for the assignment, transfer, or conveyance of tax credits.

18 (m) For purposes of this chapter, any assignment or sales proceeds received by the taxpayer
19 for its assignment or sale of the tax credits allowed pursuant to this section shall be exempt from
20 taxation under title 44. If a tax credit is subsequently revoked or adjusted, the seller's tax calculation
21 for the year of revocation or adjustment shall be increased by the total amount of the sales proceeds,
22 without proration, as a modification under chapter 30 of title 44. In the event that the seller is not a
23 natural person, the seller's tax calculation under chapter 11, 13, 14, or 17 of title 44, as applicable,
24 for the year of revocation, or adjustment, shall be increased by including the total amount of the
25 sales proceeds without proration.

26 (n) The tax credit allowed under this chapter may be used as a credit against corporate
27 income taxes imposed under chapter 11, 13, 14, or 17, of title 44, or may be used as a credit against
28 personal income taxes imposed under chapter 30 of title 44 for owners of pass-through entities such
29 as a partnership, a limited-liability company taxed as a partnership, or multiple owners of property.

30 (o) In the case of a corporation, this credit is only allowed against the tax of a corporation
31 included in a consolidated return that qualifies for the credit and not against the tax of other
32 corporations that may join in the filing of a consolidated tax return.

33 (p) Upon request of a taxpayer and subject to annual appropriation, the state shall redeem
34 this credit, in whole or in part, for ninety percent (90%) of the value of the tax credit. The division

1 of taxation, in consultation with the commerce corporation, shall establish by regulation a
2 redemption process for tax credits.

3 (q) Projects eligible to receive a tax credit under this chapter may, at the discretion of the
4 commerce corporation, be exempt from sales and use taxes imposed on the purchase of the
5 following classes of personal property only to the extent utilized directly and exclusively in the
6 project: (1) Furniture, fixtures, and equipment, except automobiles, trucks, or other motor vehicles;
7 or (2) Other materials, including construction materials and supplies, that are depreciable and have
8 a useful life of one year or more and are essential to the project.

9 (r) The commerce corporation shall promulgate rules and regulations for the administration
10 and certification of additional tax credit under subsection (e), including criteria for the eligibility,
11 evaluation, prioritization, and approval of projects that qualify for such additional tax credit.

12 (s) The commerce corporation shall not have any obligation to make any award or grant
13 any benefits under this chapter.

14 **42-64.20-10. Sunset.**

15 No credits shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
16 ~~2023~~[December 31, 2024.](#)

17 SECTION 5. Section 42-64.21-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.21 entitled “Rhode
18 Island Tax Increment Financing” is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 **42-64.21-9. Sunset.**

20 The commerce corporation shall enter into no agreement under this chapter after December
21 31, ~~2023~~[2024.](#)

22 SECTION 6. Section 42-64.22-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.22 entitled “Tax
23 Stabilization Incentive” is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **42-64.22-15. Sunset.**

25 The commerce corporation shall enter into no agreement under this chapter after ~~December~~
26 ~~31, 2023~~[December 31, 2024.](#)

27 SECTION 7. Section 42-64.23-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.23 entitled “First
28 Wave Closing Fund Act” is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 **42-64.23-8. Sunset.**

30 No financing shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
31 ~~2023~~[December 31, 2024.](#)

32 SECTION 8. Section 42-64.24-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.24 entitled “I-195
33 Redevelopment Project Fund Act” is hereby amended as follows:

34 **42-64.24-8. Sunset.**

1 No funding, credits, or incentives shall be authorized or authorized to be reserved pursuant
2 to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2023~~[December 31, 2024](#).

3 SECTION 9. Section 42-64.25-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.24 entitled “Small
4 Business Assistance Program Act” is hereby amended as follows:

5 **42-64.25-14. Sunset.**

6 No grants, funding, or incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after
7 ~~December 31, 2023~~[December 31, 2024](#).

8 SECTION 10. Sections 42-64.26-3, 42-64.26-4, 42-64.26-5 and 42-64.26-12 of the
9 General Laws in Chapter 42-64.26 entitled “Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship” are
10 hereby amended to read as follows:

11 **42-64.26-3. Definitions.**

12 As used in this chapter:

13 (1) “Applicant” means an eligible graduate who applies for a tax credit for education loan
14 repayment expenses under this chapter.

15 (2) “Award” means a tax credit awarded by the commerce corporation to an applicant as
16 provided under this chapter.

17 (3) “Commerce corporation” means the Rhode Island commerce corporation established
18 pursuant to chapter 64 of this title.

19 (4) “Eligibility period” means a term of up to four (4) consecutive service periods
20 beginning with the date that an eligible graduate receives initial notice of award under this chapter
21 and expiring at the conclusion of the fourth service period after such date specified.

22 (5) “Eligibility requirements” means the following qualifications or criteria required for an
23 applicant to claim an award under this chapter:

24 (i) That the applicant shall have graduated from an accredited two-year (2), four-year (4)
25 or graduate postsecondary institution of higher learning with an associate’s, bachelor’s, graduate,
26 or post-graduate degree and at which the applicant incurred education loan repayment expenses;

27 (ii) That the applicant shall be a full-time employee with a Rhode Island-based employer
28 located in this state throughout the eligibility period, whose employment is

29 [\(a\) for work in one or more of the following covered fields: life, natural or environmental
30 sciences; computer, information or software technology; advanced mathematics or finance;
31 engineering; industrial design or other commercially related design field; or medicine or medical
32 device technology;](#)

33 [\(b\) as a teacher; or](#)

34 [\(c\) as a healthcare applicant.](#)

1 (6) “Eligible expenses” or “education loan repayment expenses” means annual higher
2 education loan repayment expenses, including, without limitation, principal, interest and fees, as
3 may be applicable, incurred by an eligible graduate and which the eligible graduate is obligated to
4 repay for attendance at a postsecondary institution of higher learning.

5 (7) “Eligible graduate” means an individual who meets the eligibility requirements under
6 this chapter.

7 (8) “Full-time employee” means a person who is employed by a business for consideration
8 for a minimum of at least thirty-five (35) hours per week, or who renders any other standard of
9 service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time employment, or who is employed by
10 a professional employer organization pursuant to an employee leasing agreement between the
11 business and the professional employer organization for a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours per
12 week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as
13 full-time employment, and whose wages are subject to withholding.

14 (9) “Healthcare applicant” means any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements and
15 works as a full-time employee as a high-demand healthcare practitioner or mental health
16 professional, including, but not limited to, clinical social workers and mental health counselors
17 licensed by the department of health, and as defined in regulations to be promulgated by the
18 commerce corporation, in consultation with the executive office of health and human services,
19 pursuant to chapter 35 of this title.

20 ~~(10) “Healthcare fund” refers to the “Healthcare Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker~~
21 ~~Fellowship Fund” established pursuant to § 42-64.26-4(b).~~

22 ~~(11)~~(10) “Rhode Island-based employer” means: (i) An employer having a principal place
23 of business or at least fifty-one percent (51%) of its employees located in this state; or (ii) An
24 employer registered to conduct business in this state that reported Rhode Island tax liability in the
25 previous tax year.

26 ~~(12)~~(11) “Service period” means a twelve-month (12) period beginning on the date that an
27 eligible graduate receives initial notice of award under this chapter.

28 ~~(13)~~(12) “~~STEM/design~~ Fund” refers to the “Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship
29 Fund” established pursuant to § 42-64.26-4(a).

30 ~~(14)~~(13) “Student loan” means a loan to an individual by a public authority or private lender
31 to assist the individual to pay for tuition, books, and living expenses in order to attend a
32 postsecondary institution of higher learning.

33 ~~(15)~~(14) “Taxpayer” means an applicant who receives a tax credit under this chapter.

34 (15) “Teacher” shall have the meaning prescribed to it in rules and regulations to be

1 [promulgated by the Commerce Corporation in consultation with the Rhode Island Department of](#)
2 [Elementary and Secondary Education.](#)

3 **42-64.26-4. Establishment of funds — Purposes — Composition.**

4 (a) There is hereby established the “Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship Fund” to
5 be administered by the commerce corporation as set forth in this chapter.

6 ~~(b) There is hereby established the “Healthcare Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship~~
7 ~~Fund” to be administered by the commerce corporation as set forth in this chapter.~~

8 ~~(e)(b)~~ The purpose of the ~~STEM/design~~ fund, ~~and healthcare fund~~ is to expand employment
9 opportunities in the state and to retain talented individuals in the state by providing tax credits in
10 relation to education loan repayment expenses to applicants who meet the eligibility requirements
11 under this chapter.

12 ~~(d)(c)~~ The ~~STEM/design~~ fund, ~~and healthcare~~ shall consist of:

13 (1) Money appropriated in the state budget to the fund;

14 (2) Money made available to the fund through federal programs or private contributions;

15 and

16 (3) Any other money made available to the fund.

17 ~~(e)(d)~~ The ~~STEM/design~~ fund shall be used to pay for the redemption of tax credits or
18 reimbursement to the state for tax credits applied against the tax liability of any ~~non-healthcare~~
19 ~~applicant who received an award. The healthcare fund shall be used to pay for the redemption of~~
20 ~~tax credits or reimbursement to the state for tax credits applied against the tax liability of any~~
21 ~~healthcare applicant who received an award on or after July 1, 2022.~~ The funds shall be exempt
22 from attachment, levy, or any other process at law or in equity. The director of the department of
23 revenue shall make a requisition to the commerce corporation for funding during any fiscal year as
24 may be necessary to pay for the redemption of tax credits presented for redemption or to reimburse
25 the state for tax credits applied against a taxpayer’s tax liability. The commerce corporation shall
26 pay from the funds such amounts as requested by the director of the department of revenue
27 necessary for redemption or reimbursement in relation to tax credits granted under this chapter.

28 **42-64.26-5. Administration.**

29 (a) Application. An eligible graduate claiming an award under this chapter shall submit to
30 the commerce corporation an application in the manner that the commerce corporation shall
31 prescribe.

32 (b) Upon receipt of a proper application from an applicant who meets all of the eligibility
33 requirements, the commerce corporation shall select applicants on a competitive basis to receive
34 credits for up to a maximum amount for each service period of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for

1 an associate's degree holder, four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for a bachelor's degree holder, and six
2 thousand dollars (\$6,000) for a graduate or post-graduate degree holder, but not to exceed the
3 education loan repayment expenses incurred by such taxpayer during each service period
4 completed, for up to four (4) consecutive service periods provided that the taxpayer continues to
5 meet the eligibility requirements throughout the eligibility period. The commerce corporation shall
6 delegate the selection of the applicants that are to receive awards to a fellowship committee to be
7 convened by the commerce corporation and promulgate the selection procedures the fellowship
8 committee will use, which procedures shall require that the committee's consideration of
9 applications be conducted on a name-blind and employer-blind basis and that the applications and
10 other supporting documents received or reviewed by the fellowship committee shall be redacted of
11 the applicant's name, street address, and other personally-identifying information as well as the
12 applicant's employer's name, street address, and other employer-identifying information. The
13 commerce corporation shall determine the composition of the fellowship committee and the
14 selection procedures it will use in consultation with the state's chambers of commerce.
15 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the commerce corporation shall create and establish a committee
16 to evaluate any healthcare applicant for an award in the same manner as prescribed in this
17 subsection. The executive office of health and human services ("EOHHS") shall be represented on
18 the committee and provide consultation to the commerce corporation on selection procedures.
19 Notwithstanding EOHHS's consultation and representation in the selection of healthcare
20 applicants, the commerce corporation shall administer all other aspects of a healthcare applicant's
21 application, award, and certification.

22 (c) The credits awarded under this chapter shall not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of
23 the education loan repayment expenses incurred by such taxpayer during each service period
24 completed for up to four (4) consecutive service periods. Tax credits shall be issued annually to the
25 taxpayer upon proof that (i) The taxpayer has actually incurred and paid such education loan
26 repayment expenses; (ii) The taxpayer continues to meet the eligibility requirements throughout
27 the service period; (iii) The award shall not exceed the original loan amount plus any capitalized
28 interest less award previously claimed under this section; and (iv) The taxpayer claiming an award
29 is current on his or her student loan repayment obligations.

30 (d) The commerce corporation shall not commit to overall ~~STEM/design~~ awards in excess
31 of the amount contained in the ~~STEM/design~~ fund ~~or to overall healthcare awards in excess of the~~
32 ~~amount contained in the healthcare fund.~~

33 (e) The commerce corporation shall reserve seventy percent (70%) of the awards issued in
34 a calendar year to applicants who are permanent residents of the state of Rhode Island or who

1 attended an institution of higher education located in Rhode Island when they incurred the
2 education loan expenses to be repaid.

3 (f) In administering award, the commerce corporation shall:

4 (1) Require suitable proof that an applicant meets the eligibility requirements for award
5 under this chapter;

6 (2) Determine the contents of applications and other materials to be submitted in support
7 of an application for award under this chapter; and

8 (3) Collect reports and other information during the eligibility period for each award to
9 verify that a taxpayer continues to meet the eligibility requirements for an award.

10 **42-64.26-12. Sunset.**

11 No incentives or credits shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
12 ~~2023~~[December 31, 2024](#).

13 SECTION 11. Sections 42-64.27-2 and 42-64.27-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
14 64.27 entitled “Main Street Rhode Island Streetscape Improvement Fund” are hereby amended as
15 follows:

16 **42-64.27-2. Fund Established.**

17 The main street RI streetscape improvement fund is hereby created within the Rhode Island
18 commerce corporation. The commerce corporation is authorized, within available appropriations,
19 to award loans, matching grants, and other forms of financing to facilitate improvement of
20 streetscapes such as but not limited to (1) enhanced sidewalks, (2) new wayfinding signage, (3)
21 upgraded building facades, ~~and~~ (4) improved street and public space lighting, ~~and~~ (5) [technical](#)
22 [assistance](#), in support of creating an ~~attractive~~ environment for small business development and
23 commerce. [The commerce corporation shall include maximum amounts for awards for technical](#)
24 [assistance in the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to § 42-64.27-3](#). Applications and
25 awards of grants or loans shall be on a rolling basis. There is established an account in the name of
26 the "main street RI streetscape improvement fund" under the control of the commerce corporation,
27 and the commerce corporation shall pay into such account any eligible funds available to the
28 commerce corporation from any source, including funds appropriated by the state and any grants
29 made available by the United States or any agency of the United States.

30 **42-64.27-6. Sunset.**

31 No incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
32 ~~2023~~[December 31, 2024](#).

33 SECTION 12. Sections 42-64.28-6 and 42-64.28-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-
34 64.28 entitled “Innovation Initiative” is hereby amended as follows:

1 **42-64.28-6. Voucher amounts and matching fund awards**

2 (a) Voucher award amounts to a selected applicant shall be determined by the corporation,
3 to be in the minimum amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and the maximum amount of ~~fifty~~
4 ~~thousand dollars (\$50,000)~~ seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000), subject to appropriations or
5 other available moneys in the fund.

6 (b) Matching fund awards shall be awarded to organizations in an amount approved by the
7 corporation, subject to appropriations or other available moneys in the fund.

8 **42-64.28-10. Sunset.**

9 No vouchers, grants, or incentives shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after
10 ~~December 31, 2023~~December 31, 2024.

11 SECTION 13. Section 42-64.31-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.31 entitled “High
12 School, College, and Employer Partnerships” is hereby amended as follows:

13 **42-64.31-4. Sunset.**

14 No grants shall be authorized pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2023~~December
15 31, 2024.

16 SECTION 14. Section 42-64.32-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-64.32 entitled “Air
17 Service Development Fund” is hereby amended as follows:

18 **42-64.32-6. Sunset.**

19 No grants, credits, or incentives shall be authorized or authorized to be reserved pursuant
20 to this chapter after ~~December 31, 2023~~December 31, 2024.

21 SECTION 15. Section 44-48.3-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-48.3 entitled “Rhode
22 Island Qualified Jobs Incentive Act of 2015” is hereby amended as follows:

23 **44-48.3-14. Sunset.**

24 No credits shall be authorized to be reserved pursuant to this chapter after ~~December 31,~~
25 ~~2023~~December 31, 2024.

26 SECTION 16. Sections 2 and 3 shall take effect on September 1, 2023. The remainder of
27 the article shall take effect upon passage.