

2026 -- H 8209

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO THE REFUGEE DREAM CENTER (RDC)

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Sanchez, Giraldo, Cruz, Potter, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The Refugee Dream Center (RDC), located in the City of Providence, is a
2 nonprofit 501(c)(3) founded by Dr. Omar Bah in 2015, with a primary focus on resettlement and
3 assistance with the challenges faced by refugees when they come to the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, The RDC “offers assistance in finding employment, education, and housing,
5 while also providing essential skills and knowledge such as navigating the U.S. healthcare
6 system, improving English language proficiency, and guiding individuals on the path to
7 citizenship”; and

8 WHEREAS, Under newly signed executive orders, the State Department’s refugee
9 program is now suspended and the Refugee Dream Center (RDC) has lost federal funding and
10 staff; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of money in the treasury not
12 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2025-2026, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand
13 dollars (\$250,000) to the Refugee Dream Center (RDC); and the state controller is hereby
14 authorized and directed to draw their orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said
15 sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly
16 authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO THE REFUGEE DREAM CENTER (RDC)

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$250,000 to the Refugee
- 2 Dream Center (RDC).

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