

2026 -- H 8316

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LC006064
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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 \$150,000 TO THE MAIN STREET RHODE ISLAND
PROGRAM**

Introduced By: Representatives Handy, Fogarty, Cortvriend, McEntee, Kazarian,
Paplauskas, Stewart, Edwards, Caldwell, and Read

Date Introduced: March 18, 2026

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, In 2025, the General Assembly passed a Joint Resolution that established
2 the three (3) year Main Street Rhode Island program to be managed by Grow Smart Rhode
3 Island, and which became law on July 3, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, Article 1 Sub A as amended of the House Budget appropriated \$125,000 to
5 fund the first year of the program; and

6 WHEREAS, The law empowered the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation to accept
7 monies and disburse them directly to Grow Smart Rhode Island through an existing fund, for the
8 implementation of the program; and

9 WHEREAS, Main Street Rhode Island launched immediately on the passage of the law
10 in 2025, and eleven (11) district cohorts have formed throughout the state in the first year,
11 representing ten (10) cities and towns; and

12 WHEREAS, There is a desire to continue the program in earnest in year two (2), to
13 advance the work of the current eleven (11) district cohorts, and to bring additional districts into
14 the program; now therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That an appropriation in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars
16 (\$150,000) be directed to fund Main Street Rhode Island in FY 2027; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation is hereby empowered to
18 accept and disburse these monies intended for Main Street Rhode Island to Grow Smart Rhode
19 Island in FY 2027, on or before the expiration date of December 31, 2026, in order to allow the

1 appropriation of any portion of the monies held in the fund created pursuant to chapter 64.27 of
2 title 42 to Grow Smart Rhode Island to support expenditures related to the administration of and
3 execution of the Main Street America Four Points Approach; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, The state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw their orders
5 upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time
6 to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000 TO THE MAIN STREET RHODE ISLAND
PROGRAM

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of one hundred fifty
- 2 thousand dollars (\$150,000) to the Main Street Rhode Island Program.

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