

2026 -- H 8317

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC  
TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Introduced By: Representative Karen Alzate

Date Introduced: March 18, 2026

Referred To: House Finance

1           WHEREAS, Public transportation is a lifeline for thousands of Rhode Islanders. It builds  
2 thriving communities, creates jobs, eases traffic congestion and promotes a cleaner environment;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, In myriad areas across the State, Rhode Island's workforce is severely  
5 limited and understaffed. To begin to rectify this growing challenge, initiatives must be instituted  
6 to counter the downward trend; and

7           WHEREAS, An appropriation of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) is essential in order to  
8 support the allocation to the Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority fiscal year 2027  
9 budget to fill the fiscal year 2026 budget deficit, restore the 2025 service cuts, and prevent the  
10 Rhode Island Public Transit Authority from having to borrow against its own future capital funds;  
11 now, therefore be it

12           RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of money in the treasury not  
13 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2026-2027, the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000)  
14 to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority to continue current service throughout the State, hire  
15 and train more bus operators, and implement the State's Act on Climate goals; and the state  
16 controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw their orders upon the general treasurer for the  
17 payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt

1 of properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
JOINT RESOLUTION  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,000,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC  
TRANSIT AUTHORITY

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- 1           This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of five million dollars
- 2   (\$5,000,000) to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority to continue services, fill the budget
- 3   deficit and restore service cuts, and implement the State's Act on Climate.

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