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LC003186

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND FIRE
SERVICES TRAINING FUND ACT

Introduced By: Senators Burke, DiPalma, Felag, LaMountain, Tikoian, Sosnowski, Ciccone, Famiglietti, and Appollonio
Date Introduced: January 26, 2026

Date Introduced: January 09, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

CHAPTER 28.11

4 RHODE ISLAND FIRE SERVICES TRAINING FUND ACT

42-28.11-1. Title and purpose.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Rhode Island Fire Services Training Fund
7 Act.” The purpose of this chapter is to create a stable, dedicated funding source for statewide fire
8 service training by establishing a twenty-five hundredths percent (0.25%) assessment on property
9 and casualty insurance premiums.

10 **42-28.11-2. Rhode Island fire services training fund establishment.**

11 A restricted, non-lapsing Rhode Island fire services training fund within the department of
12 public safety is hereby created to support the Rhode Island fire academy and statewide fire service
13 training.

42-28.11-3. Assessment on insurers.

15 (a) On January 1, 2028 and every January 1 thereafter every insurance company authorized
16 to write property and casualty insurance in Rhode Island, for every property and casualty insurance
17 policy issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2027, shall remit an annual assessment equal to
18 twenty-five hundredths percent (0.25%) of all premiums collected the prior calendar year on:

- 1 (1) Homeowners insurance;
- 2 (2) Dwelling fire policies;
- 3 (3) Commercial property insurance;
- 4 (4) Commercial multi-peril insurance policies;
- 5 (5) Inland marine insurance policies; and
- 6 (6) Other property and casualty insurance lines as defined by the department of business
- 7 regulation.

8 (b) The assessment shall be in addition to all other fees or taxes and shall not be passed
9 onto policyholders as a specific line-item surcharge.

10 (c) Payments shall be due on January 1 annually.

11 (d) All assessments and interest shall be deposited into the Rhode Island fire services
12 training fund. Interest on any late payment shall be calculated pursuant to the provisions of § 9-21-
13 10.

14 (e) The state fire marshal shall administer the fund and disburse fund proceeds as
15 authorized by the general assembly. Unexpended balances shall not revert to the general fund, but
16 shall remain in the Rhode Island fire services training fund.

42-28.11-4. Authorized use of funds.

18 As authorized by the general assembly the funds may be used for:

19 (1) Rhode Island Fire Academy operations;

20 (2) Recruit training;

21 (3) Certification programs:

22 (4) Hazardous materials, technical rescue, marine, and EMS training:

23 (5) Capital improvements and live-burn facilities;

24 (6) Mobile training units:

25 (7) Curriculum and instructor development: and

26 (8) Municipal training grants

42-28.11-5. Reporting.

28 An annual report shall be submitted by January 31 of each year, beginning in 2028, to the
29 governor and general assembly detailing revenues, expenditures, training delivered, and municipal
30 participation.

42-28.11-6. Severability.

32 If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held
33 invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this chapter which can be
34 given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this

1 chapter are declared to be severable.

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RHODE ISLAND FIRE
SERVICES TRAINING FUND ACT

- 1 This act would establish the Rhode Island fire services training fund, a restricted, non-lapsing fund within the department of public safety to support the Rhode Island Fire Academy and statewide fire service training. An annual assessment equal to twenty-five hundredths percent (0.25%) of all written premiums for the prior calendar year would be used to fund the program.
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- 5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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