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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- QUASI-PUBLIC  
CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Burke, McKenney, Murray, Lauria, and DiMario

Date Introduced: January 30, 2026

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1           SECTION 1. Chapter 42-155 of the General Laws entitled "Quasi-Public Corporations
- 2   Accountability and Transparency Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:
- 3           **42-155-11. Limitation on transfer or reallocation of funds collected by certain quasi-**
- 4 **public entities.**
- 5           (a) Quasi-public corporations and agencies perform essential government functions and/or
- 6 provide essential government services. Many quasi-public entities are granted the public power to
- 7 collect fees and/or generate other revenue and incur debt. Since quasi-public corporations manage
- 8 significant public resources, and in order to comply with the intent of § 42-155-2, (quasi-public
- 9 corporations accountability and transparency act) all Rhode Island quasi-public corporations and
- 10 agencies should make their decisions and budgets especially transparent and open to public
- 11 scrutiny.
- 12           (b) The goals of public policy and transparency dictate that funds or monies collected by
- 13 quasi-public corporations or quasi-public agencies shall remain with the entities for use by the
- 14 entities in order to carry out their designated government functions and services and shall not be
- 15 subject to transfer or reallocation by order of or request by the governor or the general assembly to
- 16 the state's general fund or to another state agency, department, or quasi-public state agency or
- 17 corporation. In order to ensure the furtherance of the objectives of the quasi-public entities, at no
- 18 time shall the assets or other property of the entities inure to the benefit of any person or other

1 corporation or entity.

2 (c) The provisions of this section shall apply expressly to the following quasi-public state

3 entities:

4 (1) Convention center authority, established pursuant to § 42-99-4;

5 (2) I-195 redevelopment district, established pursuant to § 42-64.14-5;

6 (3) Narragansett Bay water quality management district commission, established pursuant

7 to § 46-25-4;

8 (4) Quonset development corporation, established pursuant to § 42-64.10-2;

9 (5) Rhode Island airport corporation, established as a semi-autonomous subsidiary of the

10 then Rhode Island port authority in 1992 and now the Rhode Island commerce corporation pursuant

11 to § 42-64-7.1;

12 (6) Rhode Island commerce corporation, established pursuant to § 42-64-4, and its

13 subsidiaries;

14 (7) Rhode Island health and educational building corporation, established pursuant to § 45-

15 38.1-4;

16 (8) Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation, established pursuant to § 42-

17 55-4;

18 (9) Rhode Island industrial facilities corporation, established pursuant to § 45-37.1-4;

19 (10) Rhode Island industrial-recreational building authority, established pursuant to § 42-

20 34-4;

21 (11) Rhode Island infrastructure bank, established pursuant to § 46-12.2-3;

22 (12) Rhode Island public rail corporation, established pursuant to § 42-64.2-2;

23 (13) Rhode Island public transit authority, established pursuant to § 39-18-2;

24 (14) Rhode Island refunding bond authority, established pursuant to § 35-8.1-4;

25 (15) Rhode Island resource recovery corporation, established pursuant to § 23-19-6;

26 (16) Rhode Island student loan authority, established pursuant to § 16-62-4;

27 (17) Rhode Island tobacco settlement financing corporation, established pursuant to § 42-

28 133-4;

29 (18) Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority, established pursuant to § 24-12-2;

30 (19) Small business loan fund corporation, established pursuant to chapter 64 of title 42;

31 and

32 (20) Water resources board (corporate), established pursuant to § 46-15.1-2.

1           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 -- QUASI-PUBLIC  
CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

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- 1           This act would provide that funds or monies collected by designated quasi-public  
2 corporations or agencies not be subject to transfer or reallocation by order of the governor or general  
3 assembly. This act would also mandate that quasi-public corporations limit the use of all funds and  
4 property to perform the function or service for which the quasi-public corporation was created and  
5 would prohibit the transfer or reallocation of funds held by a quasi-public corporation.  
6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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