

**2015 -- H 5758**

=====  
LC001881  
=====

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015**

---

**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS NEAR OR OVER  
MINE SITES AND ON HOW TO INSURE SAFETY AROUND MINES IN RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives McLaughlin, Messier, MacBeth, McNamara, and Trillo

Date Introduced: February 26, 2015

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

1           RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created  
2 consisting of eight (8) members: one of whom shall be the Chair of the House Committee on  
3 Health, Education & Welfare, or designee; one of whom shall be the Commissioner of the State  
4 Building Code Commission, or designee; one of whom shall be the Chair of the Rhode Island  
5 Building Code Standards Committee, or designee; one of whom shall be the Director of the  
6 Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, or designee; one of whom shall be the  
7 Director of the Providence area office of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or  
8 designee; one of whom shall be the State Fire Marshal, or designee; one of whom shall be the  
9 Dean of Engineering of the University of Rhode Island College of Engineering, or designee; and  
10 one of whom shall be the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, or designee.

11           In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory  
12 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly  
13 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu  
14 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which  
15 is entitled to the appointment consents to the member of the general public.

16           The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study and analysis of  
17 the current and/or necessary additional requirements/legislation/regulations for investigating the  
18 safety of construction of schools located on, over, or near the location of mine sites in the state,  
19 the general conditions and safety of mines located in this state, the application of principles set

1 forth in the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to mines located in Rhode  
2 Island, and the feasibility of denying a certificate of occupancy for school building construction  
3 on the site of a former mine.

4         Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
5 the call of the Speaker of the House and organize and shall select a chairperson.

6         Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

7         The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

8         All departments and agencies of the state, shall furnish such advice and information,  
9 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
10 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

11         The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters  
12 for said commission; and be it further

13         RESOLVED, That the commission shall prepare a preliminary report of its findings and  
14 recommendations to the United States Department of Labor – Mine Safety and Health  
15 Administration no later than January 4, 2016, and request comment from said Administration;  
16 and be if further

17         RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its final findings and recommendations to  
18 the House of Representatives no later than April 29, 2016, and said commission shall expire on  
19 June 29, 2016.

=====  
LC001881  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS NEAR OR OVER  
MINE SITES AND ON HOW TO INSURE SAFETY AROUND MINES IN RHODE ISLAND

\*\*\*

1           This resolution would create an eight (8) member special legislative study commission  
2 whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of the current requirements for  
3 investigating the safety of construction of school buildings located on, over, or near the location  
4 of mine sites in the state, to study the general conditions and safety of mines located in this state,  
5 and to make recommendations on the feasibility and potential need to deny the issuance of a  
6 certificate of occupancy for a school building constructed on the site of a former mine, and who  
7 would report back to the House of Representatives no later than April 29, 2016, and whose life  
8 would expire on June 29, 2016.

=====  
LC001881  
=====