

2021 -- H 6494

LC003150

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

AN ACT

RELATING TO MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FISCAL YEAR
2022

Introduced By: Representative Marvin L. Abney

Date Introduced: October 20, 2021

Referred To: House Finance

(Governor)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16 of Article 1 of Chapter 162 of the Public Laws of 2021 is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 The appropriations from federal funds contained in Section 1 shall not be construed to
4 mean any federal funds or assistance appropriated, authorized, allocated or apportioned to the State
5 of Rhode Island from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, and the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund
6 enacted pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2. For fiscal year 2022, State
7 Fiscal Recovery Fund monies apportioned to the State of Rhode Island pursuant to the American
8 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, are hereby appropriated in the following amounts for the
9 stated departments and purposes set forth below. The state controller is hereby authorized and
10 directed to draw his or her orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sums or such
11 portions thereof as may be required from time to time upon receipt by him or her of properly
12 authenticated vouchers.

13 Executive Office of Commerce \$74,500,000

14 Of this amount, \$32,000,000 shall be allocated to a program of financial and technical
15 assistance to small businesses and COVID-impacted industries, \$15,000,000 shall be allocated
16 under the administration of the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation to the
17 development of affordable housing units, \$13,000,000 shall be allocated to a program of assistance
18 to the tourism, hospitality, and events industries, \$12,000,000 shall be allocated toward the

1 acquisition of properties for redevelopment as affordable housing and supportive housing,
2 \$1,500,000 shall be allocated to expanding housing navigation and stabilization services to address
3 the rise in pandemic-related homelessness, \$500,000 shall be allocated to broadband services which
4 may include coordination, mapping, and development of a statewide plan to provide broadband
5 access to unserved and underserved households and businesses, and \$500,000 shall be dedicated to
6 expanding programmatic and administrative capacity for affordable housing in Rhode Island.

7 Executive Office of Health and Human Services \$13,000,000

8 Of this amount, \$7,500,000 shall be allocated to support relief to pediatric providers in
9 response to the decline in visitation and enrollment caused by the public health emergency. Of this
10 amount, \$5,500,000 shall be allocated to early intervention providers in response to a decline in
11 enrollment for early intervention, family home visiting, and screening programs.

12 [Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#) \$12,500,000

13 This amount in its entirety shall be allocated to support workforce stabilization
14 supplemental wage payments to eligible direct care and supporting care staff of contracted service
15 providers.

16 [Department of Human Services](#) [\\$13,000,000](#)

17 Of this amount, \$12,700,000 shall be allocated to pay semiannual retention bonuses for
18 direct care staff at childcare centers and licensed family providers in response to pandemic-related
19 staffing shortages. A total of \$300,000 shall be reserved for family childcare incentive start up and
20 technical assistance grants. The Director of Human Services and the Director of Children, Youth
21 and Families may waive any fees otherwise assessed upon childcare provider applicants who have
22 been awarded the family childcare provider incentive grant.

23 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 MAKING REVISED APPROPRIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF FISCAL YEAR
2022

- 1 This act would appropriate federal funds awarded to Rhode Island as part of the State Fiscal
- 2 Recovery Fund (SFRF) by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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