

2010 -- H 7104

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

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

**RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT AND THE PAWTUXET RIVER AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT
ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING**

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, and Handy

Date Introduced: January 13, 2010

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

1 WHEREAS, The Pawtuxet River is a vital component of an estuary that contributes to
2 the environmental health of Narragansett Bay; and

3 WHEREAS, Over the course of the last century, there have been numerous
4 manufacturing facilities and at least one toxic dump that have contributed to the pollution of the
5 Pawtuxet River and its watershed; and

6 WHEREAS, These sites include the Ciba-Geigy Chemical Corporation, which is located
7 on the banks of the Pawtuxet River, two miles west of the fall in Pawtuxet Village; and

8 WHEREAS, These manufacturing factories have contributed to the pollution not only of
9 the Pawtuxet River, but also of adjacent wetlands; now, therefor be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
11 Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests the Department of Environmental
12 Management and the Pawtuxet River Authority to conduct environmental testing, prior to the
13 initiation of any construction projects, in order to determine whether or not there are toxic
14 pollutants (including phthalate esters and all other chemicals known to be manufactured by or
15 used as raw materials at the Ciba-Geigy Facility and PCBs) in the river and wetland sediment that
16 could affect the health and safety of citizens exposed to these chemicals; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby respectfully requests that these
18 chemical analyses be conducted on samples of sediment at least two miles upstream from any
19 construction project that would affect the lowering of the river's flood plain; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby respectfully requests that the
2 projects studied include those to be constructed or the removal of existing dams or the alteration
3 of any natural features that would affect the level of water flow in the Pawtuxet River; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Department of
7 Environmental Management and the Chairperson of the Pawtuxet River Authority.

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