

2010 -- H 7505

=====
LC01660
=====

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

**URGING THE GOVERNOR TO RECONSIDER INSTITUTING TOLLS ON THE
SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE**

Introduced By: Representatives A Rice, Edwards, Gallison, Gablinske, and San Bento

Date Introduced: February 23, 2010

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, A \$4 toll for crossing the Sakonnet River Bridge is being considered under
2 the Governor's proposed budget, leaving residents and business owners located on A1 unduly
3 penalized; and

4 WHEREAS, The Sakonnet River Bridge provides tens of thousands of drivers with a
5 critical link between Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and

6 WHEREAS, Focusing on other vehicle-related charges, such as tolls on Interstate 95
7 near the Connecticut border to take advantage of traffic generated by Foxwoods, would more
8 evenly spread the monetary burden to include out-of-state drivers, both those traveling through
9 the state and those traveling in from another state; and

10 WHEREAS, Another alternative to replace revenues that would be generated by tolls on
11 the Sakonnet River Bridge is to consolidate functions of the DOT/RIBTA/RIPTA, government
12 entities that all deal with various aspects of transportation. Consolidating these agencies and
13 coordinating their services would eliminate redundancy, duplication of efforts, and administrative
14 overhead costs producing significant savings; and

15 WHEREAS, Aquidneck Island generates tourism dollars and poses major economic
16 development opportunities for this state. Jeopardizing, or in essence "fining" local residents and
17 businesses is unjust and unnecessary; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
19 Providence Plantations hereby strongly urges the Governor to reconsider instituting tolls on the

1 Sakonnet River Bridge; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to

3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

=====
LC01660