

2020 -- H 7847

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

JOINT RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO BE KNOWN AS THE "RHODE ISLAND CITY AND TOWN REVALUATION STUDY COMMISSION"

Introduced By: Representatives Marszalkowski, Morin, and McLaughlin

Date Introduced: February 26, 2020

Referred To: House Municipal Government

1 WHEREAS, Having clean, safe, and affordable communities is paramount to providing
2 the best quality of life to residents of the State of Rhode Island; and

3 WHEREAS, The fiscal health of our cities and towns must be ensured to provide
4 essential services to residents without an undue tax burden and with responsible property tax
5 rates; and

6 WHEREAS, The property revaluation process must effectively balance the fair and
7 correct valuation of property with the cost of determining the property value; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission to be known as the "Rhode Island
9 City and Town Revaluation Study Commission" be and the same is hereby created consisting of
10 fifteen (15) members: five (5) of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, not
11 more than three (3) from the same political party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House;
12 five (5) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not more than three (3) from the same political
13 party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall be the Executive
14 Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, or designee; one of whom shall be the
15 Executive Director of the Rhode Island Public Expenditures Council, or designee; one of whom
16 shall be the Lt. Governor, or designee; one of whom shall be a municipal Mayor, to be appointed
17 by the Lt. Governor; and one of whom shall be a municipal Tax Assessor to be appointed by the
18 Lt. Governor.

19 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory

1 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly
2 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
3 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which
4 is entitled to the appointment consent to the member of the general public.

5 The purpose of said commission shall be to study and provide recommendations on
6 legislation for properly setting property values for local tax purposes reducing the associated cost
7 of setting property values for the local city or town.

8 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
9 the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate and shall organize and select
10 a chairperson.

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

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

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

16 The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide
17 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
19 General Assembly no later than January 7, 2021, and said commission shall expire on March 7,
20 2021.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO BE KNOWN AS THE "RHODE
ISLAND CITY AND TOWN REVALUATION STUDY COMMISSION"

1 This resolution would create a fifteen (15) member special legislative commission to be
2 known as the "Rhode Island City and Town Revaluation Study Commission, "whose purpose it
3 would be to study and provide recommendations on legislation for properly setting property
4 values for local tax purposes, and who would report back to the General Assembly no later than
5 January 7, 2021, and whose life would expire on March 7, 2021.

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