LC004478

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Introduced By: Senators Bissaillon, Mack, and Acosta

Date Introduced: February 12, 2024

Referred To: Senate Finance

1 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Black Business Association (RIBBA) was formed in 2011 2 for the purposes of advancing business opportunities and vitality of Black-owned and minority 3 businesses in Rhode Island; and 4 WHEREAS, RIBBA assists those businesses through business development, entrepreneurship training, business advocacy, contracting, workforce development, and access to 5 capital; and 6 7 WHEREAS, RIBBA's membership includes those individuals and businesses of all sizes 8 regardless of ethnicity, race, gender, abilities, socioeconomic status, culture, sexual orientation, 9 and gender identity and the services and programs offered by RIBBA are open to all Rhode 10 Islanders; and 11 WHEREAS, The organization is one hundred percent funded through government grants, 12 corporate grants and public support; now, therefore be it 13 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of money in the treasury not 14 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2024-2025, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars 15 (\$500,000) to the Rhode Island Black Business Association to assist its efforts and services to entrepreneurs, business owners, and employers in Rhode Island; and the state controller is hereby 16 authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of said sum, 17

or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of properly authenticated

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE RHODE ISLAND BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to the Rhode

Island Black Business Association.

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