

2016 -- S 2326

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING TO
INCLUDE GREEN INDUSTRIES IN THE REAL JOBS RI PROGRAM

Introduced By: Senators P Fogarty, Metts, Nesselbush, Jabour, and Picard

Date Introduced: February 09, 2016

Referred To: Senate Labor

1 WHEREAS, It is essential to prepare our workforce to meet the demands of the green
2 economy; and

3 WHEREAS, The Department of Labor and Training has introduced Real Jobs RI, a
4 demand-driven workforce and economic development initiative that is collaborative, flexible and
5 business-led; and

6 WHEREAS, The program aims to address the skills gap across various industries in
7 Rhode Island, to identify a workforce shortage and to develop a plan with a coordinated solution;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, In July of 2015, the Department of Labor and Training awarded planning
10 grants of up to \$25,000 to twenty-one recipient organizations; and

11 WHEREAS, Planning grant applicants were tasked with assembling a strategic industry
12 partnership, identifying the training, education, human resource and other solutions to address the
13 identified critical business needs, and developing a detailed workforce training and
14 implementation plan; and

15 WHEREAS, In November of 2015, twenty-six Strategic Industry Partnerships received
16 Implementation Grants totaling \$5 million in federal and state funds; and

17 WHEREAS, These implementation grants provide funding that allows applicants to
18 execute developed workforce training plans that will address immediate, short-term, or long-term
19 shortages identified by the employed partners; and

1 WHEREAS, Successful plans lead to the hiring of participants by employer partners at
2 the conclusion of their training; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
4 hereby respectfully requests the Department of Labor and Training to include green industries
5 partnerships in the next solicitation for Real Jobs RI and implementation grants; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate supports this as a first step towards minimizing the skills
7 gap across several green industries to help move Rhode Island's economy forward; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Rhode Island Department of
11 Labor and Training.

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