

2010 -- S 2943

LC02754

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

JOINT RESOLUTION

CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, and Blais

Date Introduced: May 27, 2010

Referred To: Senate Constitutional & Regulatory Issues

1 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
2 consisting of ten (10) members: five (5) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not more than
3 four (4) from the same political party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; and five (5)
4 of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, not more than four (4) from the same
5 political party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

6 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory
7 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly
8 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
9 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which
10 is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

11 (a) The commission is authorized to create advisory committees and municipal affairs
12 coordination teams to perform tasks within the jurisdiction of the commission.

13 (b) The commission may empower these committees and coordination teams to:

14 (1) Investigate and research opportunities to create a more economic, efficient, and
15 effective management of the state's overall resources by pooling said resources and saving
16 significant tax dollars;

17 (2) Establish current baselines of the municipal expenditures; and

18 (3) Set specific tasks, timelines, goals, and methods to evaluate the progress of the
19 committees and municipal affairs coordination teams.

1 (c) The committees and teams may make recommendations to the commission for the
2 development of policies and procedures in general.

3 (d) Advisory committees and coordination teams created by the commission shall be
4 composed of citizens of this state.

5 (e) A majority of committee members or coordination team members shall constitute a
6 quorum for the purpose of conducting the business of that committee or coordination team.

7 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
8 the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House and organize. The President
9 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each select one member to serve as co-
10 chairpersons of the commission.

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

12 The membership of said commission, the advisory committees, and the municipal teams
13 shall receive no compensation for their services.

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

17 The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide
18 suitable quarters in the state house for said commission; provided, that the Joint Commission on
19 Shared Municipal Services may conduct hearings and hold meetings elsewhere when doing so
20 will better serve its purposes. A majority in number of the Joint Commission on Shared
21 Municipal Services shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; and
22 be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the commission shall, from time to time and at least annually, report
24 its findings and results to the General Assembly, and make recommendations to the General
25 Assembly and propose any legislation or initiate any studies that it shall deem advisable.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON SHARED MUNICIPAL
SERVICES

1 This resolution would create a permanent ten (10) member special legislative commission
2 to be known as the Commission on Shared Municipal Services, and whose purpose it would be to
3 make a comprehensive study and provide recommendations to create a more economic, efficient,
4 and effective management of municipal services, and who would report back to the General
5 Assembly at least annually.

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