

2023 -- H 6469

LC003104

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$800,000 TO HIGHER GROUND INTERNATIONAL TO SUPPORT A ONE-TIME CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATIONS OF HIGHER GROUND INTERNATIONAL'S NEW HEADQUARTERS

Introduced By: Representatives Slater, and Diaz

Date Introduced: May 31, 2023

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, Higher Ground International (HGI) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to
2 advocating for, empowering, and providing life-changing services to Liberian and West African
3 immigrants, refugees, and other marginalized communities; and

4 WHEREAS, National experts indicate that in order to lift people out of poverty,
5 communities must break down systemic barriers and ensure access to programs that offer
6 transitional services, including workforce preparation, job skills development, behavioral health
7 support, and basic necessities; and

8 WHEREAS, Higher Ground International currently provides all of these recommended
9 services, however, there is a critical need to provide these services to more community members
10 which can only be accomplished through expanded and renovated facilities; and

11 WHEREAS, New and renovated headquarters would enable HGI to serve an estimated
12 600 families a month through their food pantry, 125 elders a month through their Sweetie Care
13 African Enrichment Day Program, and 250 individuals a month through their social service and
14 transformational programs; and

15 WHEREAS, An appropriation in the amount of \$800,000 is a long-term and life-
16 changing one-time capital investment contribution that would expand the organization's ability to
17 offer vital services to hundreds more community members; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not

1 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2023-2024, the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars
2 (\$800,000) to Higher Ground International, Inc. to support a one-time capital contribution for the
3 construction and renovations of Higher Ground International's new headquarters; and the state
4 controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the
5 payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of
6 properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$800,000 TO HIGHER GROUND INTERNATIONAL
TO SUPPORT A ONE-TIME CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE CONSTRUCTION
AND RENOVATIONS OF HIGHER GROUND INTERNATIONAL'S NEW
HEADQUARTERS

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$800,000 to Higher
- 2 Ground International for the construction and renovations of HGI's new headquarters.

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