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LC003899/SUB A
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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

**CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROMOTE THE UPGRADE OF FACILITIES USED FOR
PUBLIC PURPOSES BY ENCOURAGING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN QUALIFYING
PROJECTS**

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, McEntee, O'Brien, Ackerman, and
McKiernan

Date Introduced: February 11, 2016

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, There is a public need for the construction, rehabilitation, and upgrade of
2 facilities used for public purposes, and that it is in the public interest to provide for such
3 construction, rehabilitation, and upgrade of such facilities; and

4 WHEREAS, There is a public need for timely and cost-effective acquisition, design,
5 construction, improvement, renovation, expansion, equipping, maintenance, operation,
6 implementation, or installation of projects serving a public purpose, including educational
7 facilities, transportation facilities, water, or wastewater management facilities, and infrastructure,
8 technology infrastructure, and other public infrastructure and government facilities within the
9 state which serve a public need and purpose, and that such public need may not be wholly
10 satisfied by existing procurement methods; and

11 WHEREAS, There are inadequate resources to develop new educational facilities,
12 transportation facilities, water or wastewater management facilities and infrastructure, technology
13 infrastructure, and other public infrastructure and government facilities for the benefit of residents
14 of this state, and that a public-private partnership has demonstrated that it can meet the needs by
15 improving the schedule for delivery, lowering the cost, and providing other benefits to the public;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, It is vital to the economic welfare and growth of our state to encourage
18 investment and to promote the upgrade of facilities by private entities; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
2 consisting of seven (7) members: one of whom shall be the Chairman of the House Committee on
3 Labor, or designee, who shall serve as Chairperson; and six (6) of whom shall be affected
4 members of the public, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

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

10 The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study and provide
11 recommendations to promote the upgrade of facilities used for public purposes by encouraging
12 private investment in qualifying projects, including but not limited to:

- 13 • Requirements for facilitating various bond financing mechanisms, private capital, and
14 other funding for the development and operation of qualifying projects, including expansion and
15 acceleration of such financing to meet the public need; and
- 16 • Methods to provide the greatest possible flexibility to public and private entities
17 contracting for the provision of public services.

18 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
19 the call of the Speaker of the House.

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

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

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

25 The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters
26 for said commission; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
28 House of Representatives no later than February 7, 2017, and said commission shall expire on
29 April 7, 2017.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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PROJECTS

- 1 This resolution would create a seven (7) member special legislative study commission
2 whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study and provide recommendations to
3 promote the upgrade of facilities used for public purposes by encouraging private investment in
4 qualifying projects, and who would report back to the House of Representatives no later than
5 February 7, 2017, and whose life would expire on April 7, 2017.

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