

2024 -- H 8002

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO DAY ONE, RHODE ISLAND'S SEXUAL  
ASSAULT COALITION AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Fogarty, Tanzi, O'Brien, Caldwell, Knight,  
Handy, Casimiro, Edwards, and McGaw

Date Introduced: March 05, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

1           WHEREAS, For over fifty years, Day One has been the only agency in Rhode Island that  
2 is specifically organized to deal with issues of sexual assault as a community concern. It serves  
3 as a vital resource for survivors of sexual assault, providing comprehensive treatment,  
4 intervention, education, advocacy, and prevention services to Rhode Islanders of all ages -- from  
5 preschool children to elder adults; and

6           WHEREAS, Day One, with a history spanning five decades, has played a pivotal role in  
7 raising awareness, advocating for legislative change, and fostering a safer and more  
8 compassionate community for all Rhode Islanders; and

9           WHEREAS, Day One's services are inclusive and accessible to all individuals regardless  
10 of gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status, ensures that survivors  
11 receive the support they need in a safe and nonjudgmental environment, and has a profound  
12 impact on the community through its unwavering commitment to fostering a safer and more  
13 compassionate society; and

14           WHEREAS, Sexual assault, harassment, and abuse happen in all communities, with  
15 young people experiencing heightened rates of sexual violence, with one in six boys and one in  
16 four girls experiencing a sexual assault before the age of eighteen, and with youth between the  
17 ages of twelve and seventeen being 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

18           WHEREAS, After 50 years, Day One remains dedicated to empowering survivors,  
19 promoting consent and respect, and challenging the systems and attitudes that perpetuate sexual

1 violence. Through collaboration with partner organizations, government agencies, and passionate  
2 advocates, Day One works to create a safer and more compassionate Rhode Island for all. From  
3 its humble beginnings in the 1970s to its present-day impact, Day One continues to play a vital  
4 role in addressing sexual violence and working towards a more just and compassionate society;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Day One relies heavily on government grants, private donations, and  
7 community support to sustain its critical services and programs, which are essential for promoting  
8 healing, justice, and social change in Rhode Island. Many of these federal subsidies have been  
9 drastically cut and threaten the loss of services to victims in need throughout the State; now,  
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not  
12 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2024-2025, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars  
13 (\$500,000) to Day One, Rhode Island's Sexual Assault Coalition and Rape Crisis Center, to  
14 bolster its efforts in supporting survivors and combating sexual violence statewide; and the state  
15 controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the  
16 payment of said sum, or so much thereof as may be from time to time required, upon receipt of  
17 properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
JOINT RESOLUTION  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO DAY ONE, RHODE ISLAND'S SEXUAL  
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- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$500,000 to Day One.

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