

2024 -- S 3160

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (EOHHS) TO UNDERTAKE A REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF HOSPITALS WITHIN THE PREVIEW OF THE SECRETARIAT

Introduced By: Senator Joshua Miller

Date Introduced: June 11, 2024

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, In 2022, the Special Legislative Commission to Review and Make
2 Recommendations Regarding the Efficient and Effective Administration of Health and Human
3 Services Programs in the State of Rhode Island submitted its findings about how best to improve
4 access and delivery to those receiving a myriad of services from within the EOHHS departments;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Commission met nine times to study EOHHS and its sub-agencies.
7 These meetings included EOHHS history, EOHHS structure, RI's Medicaid program, behavioral
8 health services, developmental disability services, state hospitals, and health and human services
9 state agency structures in other states; and

10 WHEREAS, The Commission's second recommendation was to divest hospitals from the
11 Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals and create a
12 separate Department of Hospitals, to include both campuses of Eleanor Slater Hospital, the Rhode
13 Island Veterans Home, and the forthcoming Rhode Island Psychiatric Hospital. This change in
14 the department structure would allow those state facilities to be led by those with specialized
15 hospital skills; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby respectfully requests
17 the Executive Office of Health and Human Services undertake a review and analysis on the
18 establishment of a Department of Hospitals; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby further requests that EOHHS report its findings

1 and recommendations to the Senate on or before September 1, 2024; and be it further
2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health
4 and Human Services.

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