
Budget Articles
2020-H 7170

Explanations of Budget Articles

2020-H 7170

Article 1

Section 1. Appropriations. This section of Article 1 contains the revised appropriations for FY 2020.

Section 2. Line Item Appropriations. This section establishes that each line in Section 1 of Article 1 constitutes an appropriation.

Section 3. Transfer of Functions. This section authorizes the Governor to transfer appropriations and full-time equivalent position authorizations associated with transfers of functions.

Section 4. Contingency Fund. This section allows for expenditures from the contingency account located within the Office of the Governor's budget for unexpected expenditures or for those departments and agencies where appropriations are insufficient. The Governor must approve all expenditures and transfers from this account.

Section 5. Internal Service Funds. This section authorizes the establishment of limited and specific internal service accounts to implement the cases in which state agencies provide services to other state agencies, institutions and other governmental units on a cost reimbursement basis.

Section 6. Legislative Intent. This section authorizes the chairpersons of the finance committees of the two chambers to provide a "statement of legislative intent" for specifying the purpose of the appropriations contained in Section 1 of this article.

Section 7. Temporary Disability Insurance Funds. This section appropriates all funds required for benefit payments from the Temporary Disability Insurance Fund and the Temporary Disability Insurance Reserve Fund for FY 2020.

Section 8. Employment Security Funds. This section appropriates all funds required for benefit payments to unemployed individuals from the Employment Security Fund for FY 2020.

Section 9. Lottery. This section appropriates to the Lottery Division any funds required for the payment of prizes and commissions.

Section 10. Appropriation of CollegeBound Saver Funds. This section appropriates the funds received by the Office of the General Treasurer from the CollegeBound Saver program for transfer to the Office of Postsecondary Commissioner to support student financial aid for FY 2020. The Governor's budget includes \$7.9 million from these sources for state grant programs.

Section 11. Full-Time Equivalent Positions. This section of Article 1 limits the maximum number of full-time equivalent positions authorized for the departments and agencies during any payroll period in FY 2020. In addition, this section provides that the Governor or designee, Speaker of the House or designee, and President of the Senate or designee may jointly adjust the authorization. Total staffing is 15,095.7 full-time equivalent positions, 21.0 positions more than authorized for FY 2020.

The Governor lowers the number of higher education positions supported by third-party funds from 788.8 to 523.8 positions, a 265.0 reduction for the University of Rhode Island to remove auxiliary enterprise positions previously reported as third-party. The enacted budget also limited appointments for state

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employees supported through non-state funds to the availability of those fund sources. The Governor's revised budget removes this requirement.

Section 12. Rhode Island Capital Fund. This section contains new language regarding multi-year appropriations for four projects, two of which are not in the multi-year section of the enacted budget. It also authorizes spending in excess of the FY 2020 revised appropriations up to the amounts listed as authorized for the future years of these projects.

Section 13. Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation. This section requires that the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation provide from its resources an appropriate amount to support the Neighborhood Opportunities Program. The Corporation is also required to provide to the director of the Department of Administration, the chair of the Housing Resources Commission and both chairs of the House and Senate Finance Committees a report detailing the amount of funding and information such as the number of housing units created.

Section 14. Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$1.5 million from Rhode Island Housing to state general revenues by June 30, 2020, consistent with the enacted budget.

Section 15. Infrastructure Bank Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$8.9 million of bond premiums issued to the Bank for the Municipal Road and Bridge Fund to state general revenues upon passage of this section. This is in addition to the \$4.0 million transfer from Infrastructure Bank sources required by June 30, 2020 included in the enacted budget.

Section 16. Rhode Island Student Loan Authority Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$1.5 million from the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority to state general revenues by June 30, 2020, consistent with the enacted budget.

Section 17. Quonset Development Corporation Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$1.2 million from Quonset Development Corporation to state general revenues by June 30, 2020, consistent with the enacted budget.

Section 18. Commerce Corporation Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$5.0 million from First Wave Closing Fund reserves to state general revenues by October 1, 2019, consistent with the enacted budget.

Section 19. Resource Recovery Corporation Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$5.0 million from the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to state general revenues by June 30, 2020.

Section 20. Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund. This section requires the transfer of \$1.0 million from the Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund to state general revenues by June 30, 2020.

Section 21. Oil Spill Prevention, Administration and Response Fund Transfer. This section requires the transfer of \$1.0 million from the Oil Spill Prevention, Administration, and Response Fund to state general revenues by June 30, 2020.

Section 22. BHDDH Asset Forfeiture Funds. This section requires the transfer of \$500,000 from asset forfeiture funds in the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals to state general revenues by June 30, 2020.

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Sections 23 and 24. Department of Environmental Management Unexpended Bond Funds. This section requires the transfer of unexpended bond funds totaling \$0.3 million from two different Department of Environmental Management issuances to state general revenues by June 30, 2020.

Section 25. Effective Date. This section provides that the act shall take effect upon passage.

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