

FY 2023 Changes to Governor

Revenue Changes

- 1. Hospital License Fee @ 5.42%.** The House Finance Committee includes a FY 2023 hospital license fee at 5.42 percent based on updated 2021 revenues. Total license fees collected would be \$179.1 million including \$176.3 million from community hospital payments and \$2.8 million from state payments for Eleanor Slater Hospital. This is \$8.9 million more than the Governor's budget.
- 2. May Revenue Estimate.** The May 2022 Revenue Estimating Conference increased the FY 2023 forecast to \$4,776.2 million based on its FY 2022 revisions and the new economic forecast. The estimate is \$193.0 million more than the November estimate and \$193.5 million more than the Governor's recommended level, adjusted for recommended changes that could not be included in the estimate.
- 3. Child Tax Credit.** The House Finance Committee recommends providing a one-time child tax credit of \$250 per child, for up to three children, for Rhode Island residents making up to \$100,000 for an individual and \$200,000 for joint filers, estimated to affect approximately 190,000 filers. Most checks would be issued in October as long as taxpayers file their 2021 returns before September 1. Late filers have until October 31 to qualify. A child is defined as a dependent that was under the age of 18 in calendar year 2021. This is estimated to cost \$43.8 million.
- 4. Circuit Breaker Property Tax Relief Enhancement.** The House Finance Committee recommends increasing the income threshold for property tax credit or "circuit breaker" program eligibility from \$30,000 to \$35,000 and increasing the credit to \$600 beginning with tax year 2023. Both would grow by inflation beginning in tax year 2024. The property tax credit program provides relief through a system of tax credits and refunds to elderly and/or disabled Rhode Island residents who own or rent their homes. To be eligible, the homeowner or renter must not exceed the household income threshold and be at least 65 years old, or disabled and receive a social security disability benefit. This change would cost \$3.8 million annually.
- 5. Corporate Minimum Tax to Current Law.** The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's proposal to reduce the minimum corporate tax from \$400 to \$375 per year. The fiscal impact for this reduction is a revenue loss of \$0.8 million for FY 2023; the loss annualizes to \$1.6 million for FY 2024. The minimum tax has been at \$400 since 2017; it had been as high as \$500 in 2015; the Assembly adopted legislation twice to reduce it by \$50 in two consecutive years.
- 6. Military Pensions Full Exemption.** The House Finance Committee recommends exempting military service pensions from taxation beginning with tax year 2023 and includes a reduction of \$3.3 million for half a fiscal year impact, growing to \$6.5 million for FY 2024. The Governor recommended phasing this out over the next five years in 20.0 percent increments at a cost of \$0.8 million for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommendation increases that revenue loss by \$2.5 million to reflect the full exemption.
- 7. Retirement Exemption to \$20,000.** The House Finance Committee recommends increasing the allowable modification of taxable retirement income from certain pension plans and annuities from \$15,000 to \$20,000. This is provided that the taxpayer has reached the age used for calculating full or unreduced Social Security retirement benefits and has federal adjusted gross income in tax year 2021 of no more than \$87,200 for individual filers or \$109,050 for joint filers. This would cost \$1.6 million for FY 2023, annualizing to \$3.2 million for FY 2024.
- 8. Sales Tax Exemption on Breast Pumps.** The House Finance Committee recommends expanding the sales tax exemption to breast pump products effective October 1. Based on assumptions using federal

data on new mothers and estimated birth counts and equipment costs, the expected fiscal impact for FY 2023 is \$29,800. This would annualize to \$87,150 for FY 2024.

9. Sales Tax Exemption on Funeral Items. The House Finance Committee recommends expanding the current sales tax exemption on specific funeral items to include burial containers, urn liners, urn vaults, grave liners, grave vaults, burial tent setups, and prayer cards effective October 1. The fiscal impact for FY 2023 would be \$115,734; it would annualize to \$154,312 for FY 2024.

10. Trade-In Value of Motorcycles to Current Law. The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's proposal to exempt the trade-in value of motorcycles from the sales tax. His budget assumes a revenue reduction of \$0.1 million for FY 2023 which is based on an October 1, 2022 effective date.

11. Adult Use Cannabis. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$1.3 million from general revenues to reflect passage of the Rhode Island Cannabis Act in May compared to the Governor's assumption for his related budget proposal. Statewide, the program is expected to generate \$6.6 million, including \$2.9 million in general revenues from the 7.0 percent sales tax and \$4.1 million in restricted receipts from the 10.0 percent excise sales tax to be used for operational expenses within various state agencies, offset by \$0.4 million less from elimination of plant tag and registration card fees for the medical program. Expenditures from all sources are expected to be \$5.6 million across five state agencies for a net general revenue impact of \$1.0 million.

It should be noted that licensing fees for cannabis businesses are expected to generate \$1.1 million for the new Social Equity Trust Fund; however, no expenses are budgeted from these funds in FY 2023. Pass through funding for municipalities is similarly excluded, though the Governor's budget includes \$1.6 million from a 15.0 percent portion of total collections and it is estimated to be \$1.2 million under the Rhode Island Cannabis Act from a dedicated 3.0 percent excise sales tax.

12. Court Cost Waiver. In anticipation of renewed emphasis from the Judiciary to perform ability to pay hearings in order to waive court costs for defendants determined to be indigent, the House Finance Committee recommends reducing general revenues by \$0.3 million. The court's authority to waive these fees is consistent with current law, and pending legislation establishes a more prescriptive procedure for the courts to follow.

13. License Plate Reissuance Fee Exemption. The House Finance Committee recommends waiving the \$8 fee for the statutorily required license plate reissuance anticipated to occur over a two-year period beginning July 1, 2022. Exempting the fee reduces general revenues by \$6.1 million, including \$2.9 million for FY 2023 assumed in the May revenue estimate.

14. Lottery Prize Adjustment. The House Finance Committee recommends increasing the maximum prize commission cap for instant ticket products from 65.0 percent to 71.0 percent of total revenues, which would increase the average payout across these traditional lottery products to incentivize more sales. The 2000 Assembly last increased prize commission cap for instant ticket products from 55.0 percent and 65.0 percent. This change is estimated to increase the end of year lottery transfer by \$0.5 million.

15. FEMA Claiming Delay from FY 2023 - Fund Balance Adjustment. The Stafford Act constitutes the statutory authority for most federal disaster response activities as they pertain to Federal Emergency Management Agency programs. The revised budget includes \$243.9 million for COVID-19 related expenses expected to be reimbursed through this program. Accounting rules for when these reimbursements can be recognized have forced unbudgeted state expenses in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 which are then shown as a fund balance adjustment available for use in the following year. The Budget Office's third quarter report indicates that this will again be the case for FY 2022 and at least \$210.0 million

of expenses will likely not be reimbursed until FY 2023. For FY 2022, the House Finance Committee recommends adding \$278.9 million from general revenues for expenses subject to federal reimbursement and recognizing the corresponding reimbursement in FY 2023 consistent with applicable accounting standards. This reflects further refinement of estimates from the Budget Office which also show a higher level of total expenses than the revised budget assumed.

Expenditures Changes

Administration

16. ARPA - Automatic-Enrollment Program Additional Month. The Governor recommends \$0.8 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds, including \$0.5 million in FY 2022 and \$0.3 million in FY 2023 for HealthSource RI to automatically enroll qualified individuals who are transitioning off Medicaid at the end of the COVID-19 emergency, or the last quarter of FY 2022, into qualified public health plans. The recommendation includes \$0.4 million each for information upgrades and to support one month of premiums. Subsequently, the public emergency was extended through the first quarter of FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$0.5 million from FY 2022 to FY 2023 and adding \$0.4 million to support an additional month of premium costs for total expenses of \$1.3 million.

17. ARPA - Eligibility Extension Compliance. The House Finance Committee recommends maintaining use of general revenues for RI Bridges eligibility functions related to the coronavirus emergency. The Governor's recommendation uses State Fiscal Recovery funds for expenses totaling \$0.6 million in FY 2022 and \$0.2 million in FY 2023. Of these amounts, \$0.1 million in each year is for HealthSource RI. The remaining expenses are programmed in the budgets of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the Department of Human Services.

18. ARPA - ERP System Implementation. The House Finance Committee recommends a transfer of an additional \$25.0 million from general revenues to the Information Technology Investment Fund, to capitalize it. It recommends using \$2.2 million from the fund in lieu of using federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for implementation support of the Enterprise Resource Planning system. The 2021 Assembly provided \$50.0 million to the Information Technology Investment Fund for this multi-year project.

19. ARPA - Health Care Facilities. The House Finance Committee recommends \$77.5 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to support health care facilities in FY 2023. This includes \$45.0 million for hospitals, \$30.0 million for nursing facilities and \$2.5 million to be distributed to the community health centers through the Rhode Island Health Center Association.

20. ARPA - Electric Heat Pump Grant Program. The House Finance Committee recommends a total of \$25.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to support low and moderate-income households, and community organizations to purchase and install energy efficient electric heat pumps. This includes \$5.0 million in FY 2023, or \$0.1 million more than the recommended budget. The Committee also recommends requiring that the Office of Energy Resources report to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate, on an annual basis the results of the program, including the number of grants issued, amount of each grant, the average grant amount, and the expected cumulative carbon emissions reductions associated with heat pumps that received a grant.

21. ARPA - Nonprofit Assistance. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$10.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to be distributed by the Rhode Island Foundation to nonprofit organization, for total funding of \$20.0 million.

22. ARPA - Ongoing COVID-19 Response (GBA). The Governor's budget includes \$150.1 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to help the state continue its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funds would be used for testing, contact tracing, vaccinations, lease expenses to store supplies, and mitigation efforts. The recommendation includes \$75.0 million for FY 2023, of which \$2.0 million is for lease expenses to store supplies. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to budget this expense separately, and adjusts expenditures accordingly.

23. ARPA - Pandemic Recovery Office (GBA). The 2021 Assembly authorized an assessment on federal funds received to support the Office of Federal Grants Management. It also authorized an additional assessment on federal stimulus awards not to exceed 1.0 percent to finance the planning, oversight, compliance and reporting and costs of planning, development, and implementation of a grants management information technology system. The additional assessment does not apply to Medicaid funds, or funds received for higher education, and sunsets on December 31, 2026. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include \$1.0 million in expenditures for the Pandemic Recovery Office, including \$3.4 million less from restricted receipts, partially offset by \$2.5 million more from federal funds. This reflects excluding funds from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Capital Projects Fund from the additional assessment. The amendment also adds 2.0 additional full-time equivalent positions for the Office, bringing recommended staffing to 9.0 positions.

24. ARPA - Public Health Response Warehouse Support (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to budget \$2.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for lease expenses to store COVID-19 supplies, separately. The recommended budget includes this expense as part of the ongoing COVID-19 Response initiative.

25. ARPA - Information Technology Projects to ITIF. The House Finance Committee recommends transferring an additional \$25.0 million from general revenues in FY 2022 to the Information Technology Investment Fund, to capitalize it. It allocates a total of \$22.8 million from the fund and budgets \$11.5 million in FY 2023 to support several information technology projects for which the Governor had recommended using State Fiscal Recovery funds. The projects include: RI Bridges Mobile and Child Care Tracking, Blockchain Digital Identity, Permit and Licensing Information Technology for the Department of Environmental Management, purchasing and installation of Wi-Fi systems at the Adult Correctional Institutions, and Tax Modernization for the Department of Revenue.

26. Capital - Dunkin' Donuts Center. The Governor's capital budget funds a portion of the Dunkin' Donuts Center's capital expenses with \$14.6 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds. This also includes \$0.5 million over FY 2022 and FY 2023 for an incentive program that is effectively an operating expense. The House Finance Committee recommends maintaining Rhode Island Capital Plan funds and adds \$14.1 million for capital expenses from FY 2022 through FY 2024. It provides \$0.5 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds for the incentive program. The change to the Governor's recommendation for FY 2023 specifically is a shift of \$7.1 million from federal funds to Rhode Island Capital Plan funds.

27. Capital - IT Enterprise Operations Center. The Governor's capital budget includes \$8.1 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds through FY 2027 for the Division of Information Technology's Enterprise Operations Center. This includes \$7.4 million to replace the chiller and boiler, and improve the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system in the building. Based on a project delay, the House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$1.0 million from FY 2022 to FY 2023.

28. Capital - Medical Examiners New Facility. The Governor's capital budget includes \$5.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in FY 2022, including \$0.5 million for architectural and engineering services and \$4.5 million to renovate a facility purchased in 2020 to house operations of the State of Medical Examiners. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$4.5 million to FY 2023 reflecting a project delay.

29. Capital - RI Convention Center Facility. The Governor's capital budget funds a portion of the Convention Center Facility's capital expenses with \$23.4 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds. This includes \$10.0 million more than the approved plan for the fifth floor renovation project and \$0.5 million over FY 2022 and FY 2023 for an incentive program that is effectively an operating expense. The House Finance Committee maintains Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for the projects, but adds only \$5.0 million for the fifth floor project. Funding for the incentive program is included as part of the operating budget. The change to the Governor's recommendation for FY 2023 specifically is a shift of \$5.7 million from federal funds to Rhode Island Capital Plan funds.

30. Capital - State House Renovations (GBA). The Governor requested an amendment to restore \$383,000 from FY 2021 unspent Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for the State House Renovations project. This includes \$228,000 for use in FY 2022 for leak remediation and other projects, and \$155,000 for FY 2023 to begin a study of the building's mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems for which the recommended budget includes \$37.5 million in FY 2025 through FY 2027. The House Finance Committee concurs and adjusts expenditures accordingly.

31. Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council Projects. The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's proposal to annually allocate \$6.0 million from the current surcharges on gas and electric customers to the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council for projects. The recommended budget had programmed \$5.4 million of these resources in FY 2023.

32. HealthSource RI - Redetermination Activities (GBA). Subsequent to the Governor's budget submission, the public health emergency was extended through the first quarter of FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include \$1.1 million from general revenues, including \$1.0 million for HealthSource RI's share of information technology expenses for eligibility redetermination functions related to the coronavirus emergency. It also includes \$0.1 million for operating expenses.

33. Historic Tax Credits Fund Recapitalization. The House Finance Committee recommends extending the sunset provision for the Historic Preservation Tax Credits 2013 program by one year to June 30, 2023 and transferring \$28.0 million to the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Trust Fund to allow the program to reach additional program participants.

34. Library Aid to Full Funding. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$1.4 million from general revenues for total funding of \$11.0 million for state support of public libraries. This fully funds library aid at the current law level of 25.0 percent of the second prior fiscal year's local expenditures for library services. The Governor's recommendation included \$9.6 million, which represents 22.4 percent reimbursement.

35. RICAP Transfer. A primary source of state pay-go funding is the Rhode Island Capital Plan Fund, which is used to support the maintenance, repair and construction of infrastructure, in lieu of issuing debt. The Governor's revised budget includes a transfer of \$338.0 million to the Rhode Island Capital Fund to fund major new investments in state facility infrastructure as well as transportation match for increased federal funds. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional transfer of \$240.0 million from general revenues to the fund, including \$225.0 million in FY 2022 and \$15.0 million in FY 2023 to support several projects for which the Governor had recommended federal State Fiscal Recovery funds as well as to cover shortfalls in key higher education projects. These include \$46.0 million for Galilee Port rehabilitation, \$5.0 million for the Pawtucket/Central Falls Bus Hub Passenger Facility and \$32.0 million for projects under the purview of the Convention Center Authority.

36. RI Children Information System - Fund Source Correction (GBA). The recommended budget includes \$0.9 million from the Information Technology Investment Fund to support the state's share of the

cost for a new child welfare system to replace the current Rhode Island Children's Information System. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include an additional \$0.5 million to properly reflect the state's share of the project cost.

Business Regulation

37. ARPA - Health Spending Accountability & Transparency to General Revenues. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.5 million from general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for contracted service expenses for a new program to support data analysis of healthcare claims. Since 2018 this program has been funded by a grant from the Peterson Foundation through Brown University. Work supports the Rhode Island Healthcare Cost Trend Project.

38. Adult Use Cannabis (5.0 FTE). The Rhode Island Cannabis Act enacted in May 2022 established a Cannabis Control Commission which will assume administration of the Office of Cannabis Regulation, renamed the Office of Cannabis, but remain within the Department for budgetary purposes. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.4 million from all sources, including \$1.4 million from general revenues, to fund 5.0 new full-time equivalent positions associated with the Commission, bringing the number of total adult use cannabis related positions within the Department to 19.0.

39. ARPA - Blockchain Digital Identity to IT Fund. The Governor recommends \$2.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds, including \$1.5 million for FY 2023 and \$1.0 million for FY 2024, for a new blockchain technology pilot program for use in credential issuance, authentication, and automated compliance. The program is based on a proof of concept experiment in FY 2020 and would expand an ongoing pilot currently privately funded by the vendor. Blockchain increases the transparency and security of internet transactions and certifications. The House Finance Committee recommends Information Technology Investment Act funds in the Department of Administration's budget in lieu of State Fiscal Recovery funds.

40. Bomb Squad Equipment Shift to FY 2022. The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's recommendation to shift \$144,000 from general revenues for Bomb Squad equipment from FY 2022 to FY 2023. The Department indicates it will expend these funds in the current fiscal year.

41. Capital - Fire Academy Expansion. The House Finance Committee recommends \$8.2 million more from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for a new project to expand the State Fire Academy in Exeter. This includes an additional \$0.5 million in FY 2023, \$3.8 million in FY 2024, and \$1.9 million in each FY 2025 and FY 2026. The Governor had recommended only \$150,000 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for FY 2023 for a feasibility study for work related to the Fire Academy. Major items include an auditorium, four additional classrooms, and an equipment storage building.

42. Fire Engine Grant Shift to FY 2022 (GBA). The Governor recommends \$1.5 million, including \$1.0 million from restricted receipts and \$0.5 million from federal funds for FY 2023, to reflect receipt of a new federal grant for fire academy equipment. Subsequently, the Governor requested an amendment to shift \$1.3 million, including \$0.5 million from federal funds and \$0.8 million from restricted receipts, from FY 2023 to FY 2022 to reflect earlier than anticipated purchases. The House Finance Committee concurs.

43. Human Service Programs Rates and Benefit Analysis - OHIC. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$1.5 million from general revenues for a new initiative that requires the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner to conduct a comprehensive review of social and human service programs contracted or licensed by the state. This includes analysis of rates, utilizations, and eligibility and accountability standards.

44. RIREACH Current Service. The House Finance Committee recommends \$25,288 more from general revenues in FY 2023 to support the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner's contracted consumer assistance helpline and outreach vendor. The program has been level funded since FY 2020.

45. Seed to Sale Project Update (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$0.5 million in each FY 2022 and FY 2023 for the Office of Cannabis Regulation to contract with a new vendor to develop and manage a cannabis licensing and tracking system. This would bring total funding to \$1.6 million from restricted receipts, including \$0.5 million in FY 2022 and \$1.2 million in FY 2023. The Department indicates its current vendor is no longer able to fulfill its requirements. While this system would be used for the expanded adult use cannabis program, the Department indicates it is also necessary to manage the current medical program.

46. Technical Correction. The Governor's budget inadvertently includes a negative expenditure of \$37 from federal funds and the House Finance Committee recommends the adjustment needed to correct the error.

Executive Office of Commerce

47. ARPA - Assistance to Impacted Industries. The Governor recommends \$15.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to address the negative impacts of the pandemic to the tourism, hospitality, and events industry. The recommendation extends a \$13.0 million program previously authorized as a one-time program for FY 2022. The House Finance Committee recommends funding for FY 2022 only.

48. ARPA - Destination Marketing. The House Finance Committee recommends \$1.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for destination tourism marketing in each FY 2023 and FY 2024, which must be matched by an equivalent amount from the Commerce Corporation's allocation of State Hotel Tax receipts.

49. ARPA - Development of Affordable Housing. The Governor's budget includes \$90.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to provide an enhanced level of gap financing for affordable housing development. This creates an additional directed subsidy as a match to multiple sources of financing. The total includes \$15.0 million previously authorized in 2021-H 6494, Substitute A. Funding is programmed for FY 2022 through FY 2025. The House Finance Committee concurs and recommends \$10.0 million more for FY 2023 for a pilot program to support low income and public housing vouchers and financing.

50. ARPA - Down Payment Assistance. The Governor's budget includes \$50.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for a new program to provide down payment assistance for qualified first-time home buyers. Funding is programmed for FY 2023 through FY 2025, including \$15.0 million for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommends reallocating a total of \$20.0 million of this to affordable housing and homelessness programs, including \$5.0 million less for FY 2023.

51. ARPA - Homelessness Infrastructure. The Governor's budget includes \$5.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for FY 2023 for a new program to increase facility capacity for individuals experiencing homelessness through grants to provider organizations. The House Finance Committee recommends \$10.0 million more projected in conjunction with Crossroads Rhode Island.

52. ARPA - Main Streets Revitalization. The Governor recommends \$5.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to continue a program authorized by the 2015 Assembly to award loans, matching grants and other forms of financing to enhance sidewalks, wayfinding signage, and lighting in order to create an attractive environment in local business districts. The House Finance Committee concurs with the total and recommends general revenues in lieu of State Fiscal Recovery funds.

53. ARPA - Minority Business Accelerator. The Governor recommends \$10.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for a new minority business accelerator grant program over four years. The Commerce Corporation would competitively award grants for technical assistance and capital expenses in consultation with minority small business associations. The House Finance Committee recommends \$4.0 million less than the recommended, for total funding of \$2.0 million in FY 2023 and \$4.0 million in FY 2024. Of the money allocated for FY 2023, the House Finance Committee recommends that \$0.5 million support the Rhode Island Black Business Association and \$0.3 million support the Roger Williams University Business Start-Up Clinic.

54. ARPA - Small Business Access to Capital. The Governor recommends \$20.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for FY 2023 for a new program to provide working capital, refinancing assistance, and low cost financing for small business capital purchases. The House Finance Committee does not concur with establishing this new program.

55. ARPA - Small Business and Technical Assistance. The Governor recommends \$13.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to provide grants and technical assistance to businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The recommendation extends a \$32.0 million program previously authorized in 2021-H 6494, Substitute A for FY 2022. The House Finance Committee does not concur.

56. Capital - Quonset Piers. The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's recommendation to substitute \$3.1 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in FY 2023 for Quonset Development Corporation resources for Pier 2 at the Port of Davisville. The 2021 Assembly did not concur with a similar proposal in FY 2022. State funding is provided to the Corporation for a wide range of port infrastructure upgrade and maintenance projects.

57. Disaster Recovery Grants. The Governor's FY 2023 recommended budget includes the enacted amount of \$0.7 million from federal Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds related to Hurricane Sandy and the 2010 flooding. The Office of Housing and Community Development indicates all funds have been awarded and spent; the House Finance Committee recommends excluding it.

58. Municipal Infrastructure Match - Infrastructure Bank. The House Finance Committee recommends providing \$2.5 million from general revenues to fund grants in connection with the municipal infrastructure grant program authorized under Rhode Island General Laws, Chapter 42-11.4.

59. Office of Housing & Community Development Staffing (1.0 FTE). The Governor's FY 2023 recommended budget includes \$0.6 million from general revenues to fund 5.0 new full-time equivalent positions for the Office of Housing and Community Development. The House Finance Committee recommends 4.0 new positions and includes \$120,140 less.

60. OSCAR Program - Infrastructure Bank. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$4.0 million from general revenues to support the Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund. The Fund was enacted by the 2021 Assembly within the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. Funds shall be used for planning, design, engineering, construction, and monitoring of adaptation and resilience projects and projects approved by the Department of Environmental Management and the Coastal Resources Management Council.

61. Polaris. The House Finance Committee recommends \$100,000 more from general revenues for the Polaris Manufacturing Extension Partnership, bringing total funding to \$450,000. Polaris indicated it is eligible to receive \$100,000 more in federal National Institute of Science and Technology funding, this provides the required match.

62. QDC Transfer Correction (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to exclude a \$1.2 million transfer from general revenues to the Quonset Development Corporation in FY 2023. The enacted budget includes the transfer, which was intended to be one-time.

63. Wavemaker Expansion to Mental Health Professionals. The Governor's FY 2023 recommended budget includes a total of \$1.6 million from general revenues for the Wavemaker Fellowship program. The recommendation is \$0.8 million more than enacted and includes proposed legislation to expand eligibility to healthcare professionals. Funding would be sufficient to award one two-year cohort of approximately 100 recipients. The House Finance Committee concurs and recommends \$0.8 million more to further expand eligibility to mental healthcare professionals.

Labor and Training

64. ARPA - Unemployment Trust Fund Contribution. The Governor's recommendation includes a \$30.0 million contribution to the unemployment trust fund from State Fiscal Recovery funds to be deposited at the discretion of the Director of the Labor and Training. The House Finance Committee recommends increasing the contribution by \$70.0 million for a total of \$100.0 million, and requiring the payment be made prior to the determination of the next tax schedule. This amount restores resources lost to confirmed fraud and is anticipated to reduce the tax rates for tax year 2023.

65. Healthcare Workforce Support - Skills RI (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to provide \$6.0 million from general revenues to support a healthcare workforce development initiative to address staffing shortages through recruitment efforts and talent development for existing staff. The program seeks to place 200 participants, including 100 new hires, in an employment-based training program through Skills for RI Future with the state's two largest hospital systems using employer subsidies, partnership support, and wraparound services for participants.

66. Police and Fire Death Benefits (GBA). The Governor's budget provides \$4.1 million for the Police and Fire Relief program for annuity payments and in-state tuition to eligible spouses, domestic partners and dependents of certain injured or deceased police officers and firefighters. Subsequently, the Department testified that other one-time death benefit payments were anticipated for FY 2023 that were not accounted for in the Governor's recommendation. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$0.3 million from general revenues to account for those payments.

67. Year-Up. For each year of the FY 2018 to FY 2020 period Governor Raimondo provided support to Year Up from the Governor's Contingency Fund to provide underserved young adults programming for hands-on skill development, academic coursework, internships, and wraparound support. The House Finance Committee recommends \$200,000 for Year-Up to continue those efforts.

Revenue

68. Adult Use Cannabis. The Governor's recommended budget includes legislation authorizing the adult use of cannabis. It includes \$0.4 million from restricted receipts and 4.0 new full-time equivalent positions for the Department of Revenue for taxation administration activities. The General Assembly passed separate legislation authorizing the adult use of cannabis in May, which structures the responsibilities of the Department differently. The House Finance Committee recommends \$50,000 more from restricted receipts to support the infrastructure for the volume of cash receipts associated with anticipated cannabis sales.

69. ARPA - Tax Modernization to IT Fund. The Governor's budget includes \$2.3 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to enhance improvements to Division of Taxation business processes and taxpayer services. It programs \$750,000 for FY 2023 and \$1.5 million for FY 2024. The House Finance Committee

recommends funding this project through Information Technology Investment funds budgeted in the Department of Administration.

70. License Plate Reissuance - Full Funding. The Governor's budget provides \$5.0 million from general revenues to implement the license plate reissuance required by state law, which requires the state issue new license plates every ten years. The total estimated cost for license plate reissuance over 24 months is \$8.5 million. Testimony provided at the May Revenue Estimating Conference noted that reissuance cannot begin until October 2022 because of supply chain issues. The House Finance Committee recommends providing \$3.5 million more from general revenues for FY 2023 to reflect the total expected costs with authority to have unused funds automatically reappropriated for use in the following fiscal year.

71. Mobile DMV. The Governor's recommended budget does not include the \$6.0 million requested from State Fiscal Recovery funds for four mobile DMV units based on the Emergency Management Agency's mobile command center purchased nearly 20 years ago. The intent is to use the mobile units to operate in place of registry locations required by law three times a week in Warren and one day per week in Westerly, both of which closed during the pandemic. The Department has since revised its estimate downward and the House Finance Committee recommends \$750,000 from general revenues for one unit.

72. Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Phase-Out Acceleration. The Governor's budget provides \$166.6 million from general revenues to continue the phase-out of the motor vehicle excise tax for FY 2023, consistent with the schedule under current law. The 2017 Assembly enacted legislation which gradually ends the ability of municipalities to tax motor vehicles; the tax is eliminated as of FY 2024. The House Finance Committee recommends providing \$63.9 million more from general revenues to accelerate the phase-out by one year.

73. PILOT Full Funding. The Governor's budget includes the enacted level of \$46.1 million for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program that reimburses cities and towns for property taxes that would have been due on real property exempted from taxation by state law. Municipalities may be reimbursed up to 27.0 percent of the tax that would have been collected if the property had been taxable, subject to appropriation. This recommendation is the same funding enacted for FY 2022 and equivalent to 25.7 percent and is \$2.3 million less than full funding based on available data. The House Finance Committee recommends full funding for FY 2023 and adds \$2.3 million.

74. Taxation Scanners. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$550,000 from general revenues to replace Taxation's scanners which digitize documents for use within an integrated taxation system. The Department reported that the vendor would not renew the maintenance contract for the existing machines and would only conduct repairs based on the availability of parts.

Secretary of State

75. Capital - Elections Equipment. The approved capital plan for FY 2023 includes \$170,000 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for the Secretary of State's Office to purchase elections equipment. Although the Office did not renew its request, the Governor's recommendation maintains the funding in case it was necessary. The Office reported signing a new agreement for equipment that does not require additional funding for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommends removing the unnecessary funding.

76. Let RI Vote Act. On May 25, 2022, the General Assembly enacted the Let RI Vote Act requiring the Secretary of State to establish a multiple language voter helpline and an online mail ballot application portal. It also shortens the braille ballot request period from 45 days to 21 days, expands permanent mail ballot application requests to nursing homes, permits mail ballot voting by right, requires quarterly updates to the centralized voter registration system, removes the witness requirements in lieu of centralized voter

registration system signature matching and certification that the voter will not vote elsewhere, and requires mail ballot drop boxes for each community, regulated by the Board of Elections. The House Finance Committee recommends \$140,000 from general revenues to assist the Office with implementation.

Office of the General Treasurer

77. Retirement System New Staff (1.0 FTE). The House Finance Committee does not concur with the Governor's recommendation to add 1.0 new full-time equivalent position and \$0.1 million from Retirement System restricted receipts for a new counselor position. At the end of May, the Office had five vacancies, three of which were in the Retirement System.

78. Unclaimed Property Accounting Adjustment (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to exclude the \$26.5 million from restricted receipts that represents the transfer of unclaimed property to the state, claims, and the liability set aside as expenditures in the Office of the General Treasurer's operating budget. This conforms to an adjustment made by the Auditor General in the FY 2021 closing to conform to a Governmental Accounting Standards Board rule.

Board of Elections

79. Let RI Vote Act. On May 25, 2022, the General Assembly enacted the Let RI Vote Act requiring the Secretary of State to establish a multiple language voter helpline and an online mail ballot application portal. It also shortens the braille ballot request period from 45 days to 21 days, expands permanent mail ballot application requests to nursing homes, permits mail ballot voting by right, requires quarterly updates to the centralized voter registration system, removes the witness requirements in lieu of centralized voter registration system signature matching and certification that the voter will not vote elsewhere, and requires mail ballot drop boxes for each community, regulated by the Board of Elections. The Board has noted that mail ballot processing increased 400 percent over the prior election year and requested funding to operate its high-speed ballot sorting equipment. The House Finance Committee recommends \$122,602 from general revenues to support increased mail ballot volume to implement the Act.

Ethics Commission

80. Rent (GBA). The Governor's FY 2023 recommendation includes the enacted level of \$117,000 from general revenues for expenses associated with the Commission's office lease for 40 Fountain Street in Providence. He subsequently requested an amendment to add \$6,000 reflecting the Commission's most recent lease renewal. The House Finance Committee concurs.

Commission for Human Rights

81. Compliance Officer (1.0 FTE). The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.1 million from general revenues for a new compliance officer to coordinate and hold education and training sessions for the public and other interested parties regarding state and federal anti-discrimination laws. The officer will also be involved in mediations and investigations of discrimination charges.

Public Utilities Commission

82. Legal Funds Shift from FY 2022 (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to shift \$150,000 from restricted receipts from FY 2022 to FY 2023 to reflect outside legal costs that will not occur in FY 2022. The recommendation includes an additional \$250,000 for outside legal services related to pending litigation before Superior Court. This would provide \$430,000 for FY 2023.

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

83. Adult Dental Rates (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to raise rates paid for adult dental services and adds \$8.1 million, including \$2.7 million from general revenues, for that action assuming an increase in utilization. This will bring the state's rate in line with Massachusetts where appropriate.

84. Adult Use Cannabis. The Governor's budget proposes establishing an adult use marijuana program. The Office of Cannabis Regulation within the Department of Business Regulation would oversee and coordinate activities with the assistance and cooperation of a variety of public health and safety agencies. This includes \$1.1 million to support health equity zones and \$0.3 million for expenses related to the data ecosystem for the collection of information necessary to assess the public health impacts of legalization for total funding of \$1.4 million from restricted receipts. The House Finance Committee excludes the operating expenses, based on different legislation passed in May.

85. ARPA - 988 Hotline to BHDDH (GBA). The Governor recommends \$1.9 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for the Executive Office to create a 988 hotline to maintain compliance with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020. He requested an amendment to shift the funds to the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals for the same purpose. The House Finance Committee concurs.

86. ARPA - Butler Hospital - Short Term Stay Unit. The House Finance Committee recommends \$8.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds for Butler Hospital to build a 25-bed short-stay unit to provide behavioral health care services, crisis intervention and other related services.

87. ARPA - Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (1.0 FTE). The House Finance Committee recommends \$1.9 million more from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for contracted services to assist the Executive Office with the state's transition to the federal model of providing and expanding behavioral healthcare services through Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics. Total funding of \$30.0 million also includes \$28.1 million to support the clinics as proposed by the Governor. The House Finance Committee also recommends repurposing one of the 31 currently vacant positions that the Executive Office has to support this new model.

88. ARPA - Eligibility Extension Compliance. The House Finance Committee recommends general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to maintain RI Bridges eligibility functions related to the coronavirus emergency. This includes \$0.6 million for FY 2022 and \$0.2 million for FY 2023. For the Executive Office, this includes \$10,094 for FY 2022 and \$56,722 for FY 2023. The remaining expenses are programmed in the budgets of the Departments of Administration and Human Services.

89. Children's Cabinet - Office of Early Childhood Planning. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$250,000 from general revenues to support a transition plan for the coordination and administration of childhood programs and services. Funding will pay for a consultant, or consultants, to assist the Children's Cabinet with the transition plan.

90. Children's Therapeutic & Respite Services Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$20.2 million, including \$9.0 million from general revenues, to increase reimbursement rates paid to agencies providing home-based therapeutic services, Applied Behavioral Analysis, Personal Assistance Services and Supports and respite services to \$15 an hour. The services are provided to children who have moderate to severe special health care needs often as a result of a diagnosed chronic developmental, cognitive, physical, medical, neurological, behavioral and/or emotional condition, many of which are long-term disabilities or include complex medical needs.

This is consistent with the Executive Office's proposal for FY 2023 that estimated nearly 3,000 individuals earning less than \$15 an hour. This recommendation will increase the wages of these individuals, earning between \$11.00 and \$14.99 and includes a 15.11 percent increase needed for employers to cover the wage increases.

91. Data Analysis Contractors to FTE (GBA). The Governor recommends 8.0 new full-time equivalent positions to work in the managed care program, which were converted from contractors in FY 2023. He subsequently requested an amendment to have three of those positions support the data unit instead. The House Finance Committee concurs and reduces expenses by \$178,789 from all sources, including \$51,672 more from general revenues.

92. Early Intervention Services Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends \$4.0 million, including \$1.8 million from general revenues, to raise rates for Early Intervention services by 45 percent for total funding of \$11.2 million.

93. Enhanced Home and Community Based Support (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to adjust federal funds and restricted receipts for the April 2022 spending plan submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to expand home and community based support using the additional resources included in the American Rescue Plan Act. The amendment increases federal funds by \$8.4 million and restricted receipts by \$11.0 million for a total of \$67.0 million for FY 2023. The approved spending plan includes \$17.9 million to support children's behavioral health programs, \$1.1 million for First Connections, \$4.2 million for workforce development, \$2.5 million for housing programs, \$2.0 million to support expansion of Certified Behavioral Health Clinics, and \$0.5 million for an oral health pilot program leaving \$33.3 million to be determined.

94. Graduate Medical Education. The Governor recommends \$2.0 million from general revenues for graduate medical education to include \$1.0 million each for Lifespan for its Trauma I Center and Care New England for its Neonatal Intensive Care Unit level of care services. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.5 million from general revenues for a new resident training program at Landmark Hospital.

95. Home Health Agency Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$7.5 million, including \$3.3 million from general revenues, to increase reimbursement rates paid to home health agencies for certified nursing assistants and homemakers from \$13 and \$11 an hour, respectively, to \$15 an hour and includes employee costs related to this increase. Qualified homemakers provide general household tasks such as meal preparation and routine household care when the individual regularly responsible for these activities is temporarily absent or is unable to manage.

96. Hospital Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$12.5 million, including \$3.7 million from general revenues, to raise inpatient and outpatient hospital rates from the 2.7 percent included in the May caseload estimate based on a national index to 5.0 percent for total funding of \$31.8 million, including \$10.0 million from general revenues.

97. Independent Provider Model Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.3 million, including \$0.1 million from general revenues, to increase the rate paid for personal care aides through the Independent Provider Program from \$13.82 to \$15 an hour, or a 9.2 percent increase, and includes the employer-related expenses to bring the reimbursement rate to \$17.27. The program is a self-directed option allowing individuals living at home who need assistance with personal care and homemaker services to hire, schedule, and supervise a personal care aide to assist with activities of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, toileting, eating, and transfers. This is consistent the proposal included in the Executive Office's FY 2023 budget request.

98. Labor and Delivery Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends \$12.2 million, including \$5.4 million from general revenues, to raise rates paid for labor and delivery services by 20 percent. The gap in Medicaid rates for these services and the actual costs have resulted in significant increases in uncompensated care for affected hospitals.

99. Long Term Care Rebalancing Support. The House Finance Committee recommends \$10.0 million, including \$5.0 million from general revenues, for the Executive Office to provide support for home care providers consistent with the long term care rebalancing provisions of state law. This could include retention and recruitment support, reimbursements for education and certification expenses, and new or renewed licenses.

100. Medicaid Caseload - May Conference. The House Finance Committee recommends increasing medical assistance expenses by \$183.7 million for FY 2023 to reflect the results of the May Caseload Estimating Conference estimate. This includes updated expenses that reflect rate increases and projected utilization. The estimate also includes general revenue savings of \$40.3 million from one quarter of the enhanced rate assuming the end of the public health emergency in July 2022. Accounting for the remaining changes already assumed in the Governor's budget, FY 2023 spending is estimated to be \$8.1 million less from general revenues, \$192.0 million more from federal funds and \$0.2 million less from restricted receipts.

101. Medicaid Enterprise System (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to reduce funding for the new Medicaid Enterprise System by \$1.3 million, including \$0.1 million from general revenues, to reflect updated expenses for FY 2023. The project's total costs would be \$52.0 million, including \$5.2 million from general revenues, through FY 2027.

102. Opioid Settlement - McKinsey (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to adjust the planned uses for the McKinsey Opioid Settlement funds by reducing expenses by \$380,000. The Committee recommends \$510,000 which includes \$450,000 for a harm reduction community campaign and \$60,000 for harm reduction efforts through the West Elmwood Health Equity Zone.

103. Opioid Settlement - Prevention and Treatment (2.0 FTE) (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$20.0 million from opioid settlement restricted receipts, which includes \$0.3 million for two new positions. The funds will support the objectives outlined in the state's agreement with the opioid manufacturers and distributors for use of the funds. This includes availability of treatment, transportation, and housing support as well as addressing the needs of individuals involved with the criminal justice system. Prevention activities include increasing availability of naloxone and training in harm reduction strategies. Other strategies include educating law enforcement and first responders about practices and precautions when dealing with fentanyl and other drugs.

The positions include one to provide financial oversight and management of the opioid-related funds, including the McKinsey Settlement, Opioid Stewardship Fund and the Opioid Settlement Agreement. The other position will help administer the Opioid Settlement Agreement and staff the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee, which will make recommendations to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services on the use of the funds.

104. Opioid Stewardship Fund (1.0 FTE) (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to adjust the planned uses of the stewardship funds by reducing the Executive Office's budget by \$2.2 million and transferring \$0.6 million to the Department of Health and \$1.1 million to the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals. The Committee also adds \$0.2 million for a new Director of Overdose, Prevention and Response as requested.

105. Pay for Success (1.0 FTE) (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor requested amendment to add \$141,465 from restricted receipts for a new position for the Pay for Success program. This brings funding to the enacted level of \$1.5 million from restricted receipts.

106. Pediatric Provider Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends \$5.5 million, including \$2.5 million from general revenues, to raise pediatric provider rates to be equal to the primary care rates paid by Medicare. The current rates paid through managed care plans are 65 percent of primary care rates and the fee-for-service reimbursement, which are a fraction of the rates paid for services, are 33 percent of those rates.

107. Public Health Emergency - Unwinding (GBA). Subsequent to the Governor's budget submission, the public health emergency was extended through the first quarter of FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$7.9 million, of which \$2.1 million is from general revenues, for the Executive Office's share of technology and other operating expenses related to the redetermination process for Medicaid eligibility that is required once the public health emergency ends.

108. Personal Choice Program Rates. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$12.5 million, including \$5.5 million from general revenues, to increase reimbursement paid to home health agencies for personal care aides through the Personal Care Program by approximately 40 percent. Since home health agencies pay a range of employer-related expenses, this assumes the reimbursement rate will increase from \$17.17 to \$24.17, which includes employer costs. This is consistent the proposal included in the Executive Office's FY 2023 budget request.

Children, Youth and Families

109. ARPA - Provider Wage Stabilization Extension. The FY 2022 budget includes \$12.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to provide workforce stabilization payments to direct care staff of congregate care and community based providers in contract with the Department. This was in response to providers reporting a high number of vacancies and staff recruitment issues, which had resulted in a capped or reduced number of youth that providers are able to serve. Assuming \$5.6 million of unspent FY 2022 funding will be available to continue funding the initiative for the first two quarters, the Governor requested an amendment to add \$1.9 million from general revenues to provide phased down payments at a rate of 66 percent in the third quarter and 33 percent in the fourth quarter. The House Finance Committee instead recommends adding \$2.5 million from federal funds to continue the initiative in FY 2023 at full value.

110. ARPA - Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. The Governor includes \$6.0 million from American Rescue Plan Act funding to establish at least one psychiatric residential treatment facility for female youth. The Department subsequently indicated that it intended to reevaluate the proposal to use the funding to potentially renovate or construct a state-owned facility. The Department has identified two providers willing to expand its facilities to meet the state's identified needs for this population. The House Finance Committee recommends providing \$12.0 million from American Rescue Plan Act funds, or \$6.0 million more than recommended, to expand existing in-state capacity at private facilities and initial design of a new qualified residential treatment program facility. It also recommends \$45.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds over FY 2024 through FY 2026 for the state to construct such a facility.

111. Child Care Rate Increase. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$3.6 million from federal funds for the Department of Human Services and \$0.4 million for the Department of Children, Youth and Families to increase payments to center-based child care providers across all age groups. Rates for first tier providers are increased to the 50th percentile of the 2021 market survey and payments for top tier providers are increased to the 80th percentile.

112. Mobile Response and Stabilization. The Governor did not recommend funding the Department's request for \$0.7 million from all sources, including \$0.1 million from general revenues, for a new mobile response and stabilization service to begin on July 1, 2022. Mobile response and stabilization services, commonly referred to as the MCRS, are services designed to intercede before urgent behavioral situations become unmanageable and costly. The House Finance Committee recommends funding as requested.

113. Realign DCYF Expenses. The Department's FY 2023 budget request includes a series of operating and contracted services changes, including adding funding for bus passes for youth and families and costs relating to filling positions added by the 2021 Assembly offset by placement savings, which were overfunded in the enacted budget. The Governor did not recommend the programmatic changes. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting general revenue funding among programs to more accurately reflect requested expenditures and adding \$0.2 million from federal funds to reflect contracted costs for assistance with compliance with the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018.

114. RICHIST Upgrade - Federal Share. The Governor's operating budget recommendation excludes the \$1.3 million from federal funds included in the enacted budget for the federal share of the proposed replacement of the Department's child welfare system; based on his capital budget, the intent of the recommendation appears to be to include the federal share of \$0.9 million for FY 2023. The recommendation includes \$28.0 million over four years beginning in FY 2022, including \$17.8 million from the Information Technology Investment Fund and \$11.2 million from federal funds. The House Finance Committee recommends adjusting the operating budget to include the \$0.9 million from federal funding for FY 2023.

115. Provider Rate Enhancement. The Governor requested an amendment to provide an enhanced rate for provider programs for FY 2023. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services would pay an enhanced rate of 14.0 percent, totaling \$3.3 million, for home and community based services that are Medicaid eligible. The amendment also assumes the Department would pay an enhanced rate of 10.0 percent, totaling \$6.0 million, for out-of-home services, including foster care and congregate care, as well as home and community based services that are non-Medicaid claimable. The House Finance Committee recommends \$8.5 million, including \$6.3 million from general revenues for an enhanced rate of 14.0 percent for all providers.

116. Vehicle Fleet Adjustment (GBA). The Governor's recommendation for FY 2022 added \$0.2 million from general revenues requested by the Department for its fleet costs above the enacted \$0.5 million in funding. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to exclude that \$0.2 million based on updated projections that the additional funding was not necessary to execute the fleet plan. The House Finance Committee concurs.

Health

117. Adult Use Cannabis. The Governor's budget proposes establishing an adult use marijuana program. The Office of Cannabis Regulation within the Department of Business Regulation would oversee and coordinate activities with the assistance and cooperation of a variety of public health and safety agencies, including \$381,839 in restricted receipt expenses for the Department of Health. This includes \$240,166 to support two new positions and \$141,673 for operations support to assess and mitigate the public health impacts of adult use marijuana legalization. The House Finance Committee excludes the operating expenses, based on different legislation passed in May authorizing the adult use of cannabis.

118. Aquatic Venues Inspector (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include \$0.1 million from general revenues to fund an environmental scientist position within the Department's existing staffing authorization. The position will be responsible for reviewing and licensing aquatic venues, and addressing backlogs.

119. ARPA - Public Health Clinics. The House Finance Committee recommends \$4.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds in FY 2023 to support two health clinics. This includes \$2.0 million to the Rhode Island Free Clinic to improve statewide access and quality of primary care for uninsured adults; to increase access to dental care for uninsured adults integrated into medical care at the clinic; and, to build infrastructure for telehealth and electronic medical records. It also includes \$2.0 million for Open Door Health to expand its services and efforts to address issues for people who are disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

120. COVID Relief - Contact Tracing (GBA). Based on anticipated expenditures and available resources, the Governor requests an amendment to include \$11.1 million more from direct federal grants for infection prevention, contact tracing, and case investigation, for which the recommended budget includes \$8.0 million for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs and includes \$19.2 million for FY 2023.

121. COVID Relief - Individual Support (GBA). Based on anticipated expenditures, the Governor requests an amendment to reduce recommended federal fund expenditures for quarantine and isolation by \$2.1 million. These expenses include temporary housing for those who cannot isolate in their homes. The House Finance Committee concurs and includes \$0.7 million for FY 2023.

122. COVID Relief - Other Adjustments (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$4.8 million from federal funds for COVID Relief expenditures, reflecting available resources. These expenses are related to mitigation efforts and the state's response to the public health pandemic, including a communication campaign, interpreters for press conferences, and translation services.

123. COVID Relief - Public Health Workers Grant Adjustment (GBA). In 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention made the Community Health Workers for COVID Response grant available, which can be used for various training programs. The Governor's revised budget includes the awarded \$5.0 million in expenses. Subsequently, the Department was awarded a supplemental \$5.0 million award, for a total of \$10.0 million. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendments to reduce FY 2022 recommended expenditures by \$3.5 million based on anticipated expenses and add \$6.5 million in FY 2023. This would leave \$2.0 million available for FY 2024 and beyond.

124. COVID Relief - Testing (GBA). Subsequent to the budget submission, the timeframe for federal reimbursement for COVID Relief related expenses was extended. This frees up resources from direct grants as more federal expenditures will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Based on available resources and anticipated expenditures, the Governor requested an amendment to include an additional \$15.8 million from federal funds for testing related expenses, bringing total expenditures to \$29.4 million for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs.

125. COVID Relief - Vaccination Campaign (GBA). Based on projected expenditures, the Governor requested an amendment to reduce FY 2023 federal fund expenditures for vaccine distribution, including personnel to administer it, storage, supplies, and outreach by \$4.2 million. The House Finance Committee concurs and includes \$13.3 million for FY 2023.

126. Federal Grants Adjustments (GBA). Based on updated spending projections from various federal grants, the Governor requested an amendment to include an additional \$69,025 of federal fund expenses. The amendment adds \$2.3 million for unspecified operating expenses and reduces recommended salaries and benefits by \$2.2 million; some of these personnel expenses are shifted to COVID Relief related programs.

127. Indirect Cost Recovery Adjustments (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$15.4 million of expenditures supported by indirect cost recovery surcharges, reflecting available resources. The Department uses its indirect cost recovery restricted receipts to offset costs associated with administering federally funded programs and expenditures to support COVID response.

128. New Health Laboratory - Corrected to Capital Budget. Consistent with the Governor's capital budget, the House Finance Committee recommends \$30.0 million from federal funds in FY 2023 for the construction of the new health laboratory. The recommended operating budget had assumed the total cost of \$81.2 million in FY 2023.

129. Opioid Stewardship Fund (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to adjust expenditures from Opioid Stewardship funds, reflecting an updated plan. This includes adding \$0.5 million for harm reduction center infrastructure and \$0.1 million to support a quality assurance officer position to be filled within the Department's existing authorization. The position will provide timely data on fatal overdoses.

130. Opioids - McKinsey Settlement (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendments to include a total of \$1.5 million in the Department Health from the \$2.6 million McKinsey Opioid Settlement restricted receipts, reflecting an updated plan. This includes \$0.7 million in FY 2023, of which \$0.4 million is for harm reduction centers and \$0.3 million will be used to purchase naloxone supplies. The supplies will be distributed to community partners for populations that are at risk of overdose.

131. WIC Adjustments (GBA). The Department received a \$1.2 million federal grant authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act for the Women, Infants, and Children nutrition assistance program, which had to be spent by September 2021. The recommended budgets included \$1.0 million in FY 2022 and \$1.2 million in FY 2023, or \$1.0 million more than the award. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendments to include \$750,000 in FY 2022 based on anticipated expenditures and remove FY 2023 budgeted expenditures, reflecting the expiration of the grant.

Human Services

132. ARPA - Eligibility Extension Compliance. The House Finance Committee recommends general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to maintain RI Bridges eligibility functions related to the coronavirus emergency. This includes \$0.6 million for FY 2022 and \$0.2 million for FY 2023. Of these amounts, \$36,182 in FY 2023 is for the Department of Human Services. The remaining expenses are programmed in the budgets of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and HealthSource RI.

133. ARPA - Emergency Staffing RIVH. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.1 million from general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for emergency staffing needs related to the coronavirus emergency at the Rhode Island Veterans' Home.

134. ARPA - RI Bridges Mobile & Child Care Tracking to ITIF. The Governor recommends \$6.7 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to improve and expand the HealthyRhode mobile application and improve the collection of attendance data from child care providers. The recommendation includes \$2.4 million each for FY 2023 and FY 2024 and \$1.9 million for FY 2025. The House Finance Committee concurs but shifts expenses to the Information Technology Investment fund.

135. Boys and Girls Club - One Time. The House Finance Committee recommends a one-time increase of \$750,000 from general revenues for the RI Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs, for total funding of \$1.1 million for FY 2023.

- 136. Capital - Veterans' Home Asset Protection.** The House Finance Committee recommends \$400,000 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for asset protection projects at the Veterans' Home for FY 2023, \$100,000 more than recommended by the Governor. The Committee also recommends annual funding of \$500,000 from FY 2024 through FY 2027, \$400,000 more than included in the recommended capital plan.
- 137. Cash Assistance Caseload - May Conference.** The House Finance Committee recommends reducing expenditures for cash assistance caseloads by \$11.5 million, including \$0.3 million from general revenues, to reflect the May Caseload Estimating Conference estimates for Rhode Island Works, subsidized child care, supplemental security income, and general public assistance bridge programs.
- 138. Child Care Attendance Reimbursement Policy.** The House Finance Committee recommends maintaining traditional reimbursement policies and continuing to reimburse providers based on attendance instead of enrollment, and removes \$1.5 million from federal funds.
- 139. Child Care Licensing IT System (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$225,000 from federal funds to design a child care licensing information technology system. Licensing is currently supported by the Rhode Island Children's Information System as the Department of Children, Youth and Families was previously responsible for child care licensing activities. As the replacement system will not include a child care licensing component, the Department of Human Services will develop its own, separate system.
- 140. Child Care Rate Increase.** The House Finance Committee recommends increasing payments for center-based child care providers across all age groups. Rates for first tier providers are increased to the 50th percentile of the 2021 market survey and payments for top tier providers are increased to the 80th percentile. The budget adds \$3.6 million from federal funds for the Department of Human Services and \$0.3 million for the Department of Children, Youth and Families.
- 141. Community Action Fund - One Time.** The House Finance Committee recommends a one-time increase of \$1.4 million from general revenues for the Community Action Fund, for total funding of \$2.0 million for FY 2023.
- 142. Field Office Occupancy.** The House Finance Committee recommends \$3.1 million from all sources, including \$2.0 million from general revenues, to provide sufficient resources to address field office location challenges that emerged during FY 2022.
- 143. Hardship Program (GBA).** The Governor's FY 2023 recommendation inadvertently excludes \$90,000 from general revenues for the hardship program. He subsequently requested an amendment to restore the funding; the House Finance Committee concurs.
- 144. Paratransit Program - Gas Tax Yield Adjustment.** Based on an upward revision to the gas tax yield and updated estimates to the intermodal transportation fund, which supports the Office of Healthy Aging's paratransit program, the House Finance Committee recommends increasing expenditures by \$0.2 million to reflect anticipated resources.
- 145. Public Health Emergency Redetermination Support (GBA).** Subsequent to the Governor's budget submission, the public health emergency was extended through the first quarter of FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include \$11.9 million from all sources, including \$6.6 million from general revenues, for the Department's share of personnel and operating expenses for eligibility redetermination functions related to the coronavirus emergency. The Committee also recommends authorization for 20.0 new full-time equivalent positions to support this work.

146. SNAP Benefits Streamline Application. The Department has requested a waiver from the Federal Nutrition Service to streamline the application process for elderly and disabled individuals seeking Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. Assuming approval of the waiver, the House Finance Committee adds \$0.3 million from federal funds for benefit payments and \$5,000 from general revenues for outreach.

147. SNAP Pilot. The House Finance Committee recommends \$11.5 million from general revenues to launch a retail Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) pilot program. This includes funding for information technology upgrades and assumes the pilot will begin January 1, 2023. Eligible households would receive an incentive payment of \$0.50 for every \$1.00 spent on fruits and vegetables, up to a maximum amount to be determined by the department, loaded onto their electronic benefits transfer cards.

148. Veterans' Home Adjustments (GBA). The Governor's FY 2023 recommendation accounts for statewide adjustments consistent with his recent labor agreements and assuming the pay increases also apply to non-union staff. However, the recommendation overstated the availability of federal per diem reimbursements to support these adjustments. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to shift \$0.7 million of personnel expenditures to general revenues. He also requested to restore \$0.2 million of general revenues operating expenses inadvertently excluded from the recommendation. The House Finance Committee concurs with the requested amendment.

149. Veterans' Home Healthcare Staff Recruitment & Incentives (GBA). The Governor requested an amendment to include \$397,240 from general revenues to provide recruitment and retention incentives for staff at the Veterans' Home. Support includes \$128,240 for participation in education pathways training, \$130,500 for clothing allowances, \$18,500 for mentoring bonuses for current staff, and \$120,000 for recruitment incentives. The House Finance Committee concurs with the requested amendment.

150. Veterans' Home Resident Fee Repayment (GBA). The Governor requested an amendment to include \$0.8 million from general revenues to reimburse certain Veterans' Home residents for maintenance fees collected from October 2010 through January 2013. Previously, the Home was directed to reimburse those individuals for fees collected from February 2013 through June 2020. The Home receives an enhanced per diem rate for qualifying residents with a 70 percent or greater service-related disability and no longer collects maintenance fees from this population. The House Finance Committee concurs.

BHDDH

151. Adult Use Cannabis. The Governor's budget includes Article 11 to establish an adult use marijuana program. The Office of Cannabis Regulation within the Department of Business Regulation would oversee and coordinate activities with the assistance and cooperation of a variety of public health and safety agencies. This includes \$0.3 million for two new positions and \$0.1 million for services. The House Finance Committee includes \$0.1 million for one new position, or \$0.2 million less than recommended, based on the legislation authorizing adult use of cannabis.

152. ARPA - 988 Hotline from EOHHS (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to shift \$1.9 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services' budget to the Department to create a 988 hotline to maintain compliance with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020.

153. ARPA - Emergency Staffing. The House Finance Committee recommends \$454,500 from general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for emergency staffing needs related to the coronavirus emergency at the Eleanor Slater Hospital and the new Rhode Island Psychiatric Facility.

- 154. CMS Compliance - Contractor (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$0.6 million, including \$0.3 million from general revenues, to extend the contract with Courtemanche & Associates to assist the Department with complying with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid requirements at Eleanor Slater Hospital.
- 155. Consent Decree - Workforce Development & Technical Assistance (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.0 million, including \$0.5 million from general revenues, to support initiatives focused on recruiting, creating pipelines for, and credentialing the workforce. It also provides technical assistance for technology purchases to individuals with developmental disabilities that is part of the Action Plan related to the ongoing federal consent decree.
- 156. ESH - Forensic Patients - Out of State Provider (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.5 million from general revenues for an agency in South Carolina to provide services for up to five forensic patients on an as-needed basis in FY 2023.
- 157. ESH - Forensic Patients - State Only.** The Governor's recommendation includes Medicaid funds for patient expenses at Eleanor Slater Hospital starting in January 2023 assuming the state is back in compliance with the IMD mix. The recommendation includes \$3.6 million from Medicaid funds for 20 forensic patients at the Adolph Meyer building. However, it has already been determined that the state cannot bill Medicaid for the forensic patients, regardless of where patient resides, either the Benton facility or another medical building. The House Finance Committee adds \$3.6 million from general revenues in lieu of Medicaid funds to correct for this.
- 158. ESH - Hospital License Fee.** The House Finance Committee recommends \$2.8 million for the FY 2023 hospital license fee payment for Eleanor Slater Hospital. The fee, paid by both the community hospitals and the state, is lowered to 5.42 percent from 5.725 percent based on updated 2021 revenue. This is \$0.5 million more than the Governor's recommendation to make the payment. There is also a corresponding revenue adjustment.
- 159. ESH - Medicaid Technical Adjustment (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.7 million from federal Medicaid funds for expenses at the state hospital.
- 160. Healthcare Recruitment and Retention (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.5 million from general revenues to provide recruitment and retention incentives for staff at the state hospital. Support includes \$569,660 for participation in education pathways training, \$455,500 for recruitment incentives, \$385,000 for clothing allowances, and \$55,500 for mentoring bonuses for current staff.
- 161. Hospital Compliance Projects (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.1 million from general revenues for additional capital projects performed through the Department of Administration that exceed available resources. The Committee also concurs with the requested amendment to increase turnover savings at the hospital which offsets this expense.
- 162. Opioid Settlement - McKinsey (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to adjust the planned uses for the McKinsey Opioid Settlement funds and add \$250,000 transferred from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Funding will support a new pilot program to invest in the substance use disorder workforce.
- 163. Opioid Stewardship Fund (GBA).** The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to transfer \$1.1 million from Opioid Stewardship funds recommended in the Executive Office's budget. Planned uses include \$500,000 for the Regional Task Forces, \$300,000 for

additional substance use disorder residential services, and \$300,000 for a new substance use disorder workforce pilot program.

164. Private Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Caseload - May Conference. The House Finance Committee recommends decreasing expenses for community based services for individuals with developmental disabilities by \$9.6 million for FY 2023 to reflect the results of the May Caseload Estimating Conference estimate. The estimate also includes general revenue savings of \$2.6 million from the public health emergency being extended into the first quarter of FY 2023. Accounting for the remaining changes already assumed in the Governor's budget, FY 2023 spending is estimated to be \$11.4 million less from general revenues and \$1.8 million more from federal funds.

165. Retention Bonuses (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$1.4 million, including \$1.1 million from general revenues, to correct an inadvertent undercount of retention payments from the recommendation in both FY 2022 and FY 2023.

166. RI Psychiatric Hospital Administration (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$65,811 from general revenues for the new Chief Executive Officer at the state psychiatric hospital that was inadvertently underfunded in the recommendation.

167. Turnover Savings (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to reduce hospital staffing expenses by \$2.1 million, including \$1.8 million from general revenues, from keeping additional positions vacant in FY 2023.

Office of the Child Advocate

168. Position Upgrades. The Governor did not recommend funding the Office's FY 2023 request for \$144,600, including \$124,812 from general revenues and \$19,788 from federal funds, to upgrade all ten of its positions into higher pay grades. This represents an approximate 13 percent increase. The Office indicates the position upgrades reflect equitable pay grades for the education, role, and responsibilities possessed and is more consistent with salaries of other state agency directors and assistant directors. The House Finance Committee recommends funding to upgrade the positions from general revenues exclusively, as the Office does not anticipate federal fund availability.

169. Turnover Savings Elimination. The enacted budget includes funding for two positions that were partially funded from a federal Victims of Crime Act grant. In September 2021, the Office was notified it will not receive any funding from the grant and the Governor did not recommend funding for those two positions for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.2 million from general revenues to fund both positions.

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

170. ADA Coordinator Position (1.0 FTE). The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.1 million from general revenues to fund a new Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator position to assist with accessibility issues and ensure timely project completion. The Commission currently has 1.0 full-time equivalent position dedicated to all statewide projects.

171. Livable Home Modification. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$0.5 million from general revenues for total funding of \$1.0 million for the Livable Home Modification Grant program. The program provides 50.0 percent of the total retrofit costs, up to \$4,000, to support home modifications and accessibility enhancements to allow individuals to remain in community settings. The increase is intended to be one-time to address a surge in applications.

Office of the Mental Health Advocate

172. ARPA - Mental Health Treatment Court to General Revenues. The Governor's recommended budget includes \$0.2 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for 2.0 new full-time equivalent positions to support the Mental Health Court Pilot Program. The House Finance Committee concurs with the new positions but recommends general revenues in lieu of federal funds.

Elementary & Secondary Education

173. Adult Education Providers. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$500,000 from general revenues for local adult education providers to support increased interest in services.

174. ARPA - Adult Education Investment. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$5.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds for new support to adult education providers to expand access and reduce waitlists, including \$2.0 million for FY 2023.

175. ARPA - Municipal Learning Centers. The Governor recommends \$15.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to launch 11 municipal learning centers, as well as administrative costs, including \$5.0 million for FY 2023. The House Finance Committee does not concur and excludes the funding.

176. Capital - Davies Healthcare Classrooms. Based on updated estimates, House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$2.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for the health career classrooms renovation project at Davies Career and Technical School, for total project costs of \$7.0 million.

177. Capital - Davies HVAC. Based on projected FY 2022 expenses, the House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$1.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for the HVAC Project at Davies Career and Technical School from FY 2022 to FY 2023.

178. Davies Statewide Adjustments (GBA). The Governor's FY 2023 recommendation accounts for statewide adjustments consistent with his recent labor agreements and assuming the pay increases also apply to non-union staff. It assumes the adjustments apply to teaching staff at Davies Career and Technical School, who are members of a separate employee union that was not a part of the most recent agreements. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to reduce personnel expenditures by \$0.7 million from general revenues. The House Finance Committee concurs with the requested amendment.

179. Dyslexia Educator Training. The House Finance Committee recommends \$50,000 from general revenues for educator dyslexia training, including Orton-Gillingham or similar programs.

180. Education Aid Data and Formula Change. As a result of the coronavirus emergency, enrollments in public schools have declined by more than 4,000 students since March 2020. The House Finance Committee recommends legislation in Article 10 to hold districts harmless from the impacts of enrollment decline, adjusted for those students attending new and expanding charter schools. It also recommends maintaining the FY 2022 state share ratio for FY 2023 because poverty data and pandemic related impacts appear to have distorted the measure, contrary to the formula's intent. The budget includes an additional \$17.0 million from general revenues to reflect these changes and an updated school of choice density aid calculation.

181. ESSER Funds Shift from FY 2022. Based on updated timing of projected expenses, the House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$49.6 million from federal Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief funds from FY 2022 to FY 2023.

182. Funding Formula Audit Adjustment to FY 2022. Following enactment of the FY 2022 budget, the Division of Municipal Finance adjusted the local property value data used to determine the state's share of education costs to account for errors made by several municipalities. The recommended budget includes funding to account for this adjustment in FY 2023 consistent with current law, but does not reduce funding for districts that were overpaid. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to shift \$0.8 million for districts that were underpaid to FY 2022; districts that were overpaid would still be held harmless in FY 2023. The House Finance Committee concurs with the amendment to shift funding to FY 2022 and also removes \$0.8 million from FY 2023.

183. Multilingual Learner Specialist (1.0 FTE). The Governor recommends \$0.1 million from general revenues and authorization for a new multilingual learner specialist. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes funding and authorization for a new world language leader; through the end of March, the position has not been filled. The House Finance Committee does not recommend funding or authorization for the new position.

184. Regional District Transportation Aid (GBA). The Governor recommends the enacted level of \$3.5 million from general revenues for the regional transportation category of education aid. He subsequently requested an amendment to add \$1.6 million to fully fund this category of aid with a total of \$5.1 million. The House Finance Committee concurs with the requested amendment.

185. School Building Authority. The House Finance Committee recommends \$50.0 million from general revenues be deposited into the School Building Authority Capital Fund to provide upfront support for high priority school construction projects.

186. School Nutrition Programs. Based on projected expenses, the House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$4.5 million from federal funds for school nutrition programs

187. Transformation Specialist (1.0 FTE). The Governor recommends \$0.1 million from general revenues and authorization for a new transformation specialist. The House Finance Committee does not recommend the funding or authorization.

Higher Education

188. ARPA - Higher Education Academies. The Governor recommends \$6.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds and 3.0 new full-time equivalent positions for the Office of Postsecondary Commissioner to implement the Higher Education Academies initiative. The Governor also recommends \$4.5 million annually from FY 2024 through FY 2026 and \$2.5 million for FY 2027 for this initiative. The House Finance Committee does not concur with this new proposal.

189. Capital - CCRI Data Cabling and Power Infrastructure. The Governor's recommendation for \$13.5 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for modernization of the Community College's data cabling and power infrastructure is consistent with the approved plan and programs funding through FY 2025, including \$1.8 million for FY 2022 and \$3.3 million for FY 2023. Based on project delays the House Finance Committee recommends shifting all funding out by one year through FY 2026.

190. Capital - CCRI Flanagan Campus Renewal. The Governor's recommendation for \$12.5 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for renovations and upgrades to the Community College's Flanagan Campus, is consistent with the approved plan and programs funding through FY 2025 including \$2.0 million each for FY 2022 and FY 2023. Based on project delays the House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$6.0 million from FY 2022 through FY 2024 to FY 2025 and FY 2026. This would provide \$18,000 for FY 2022 and \$2.0 million for FY 2023.

191. Capital - CCRI Knight Campus Renewal. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$2.9 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds from FY 2022 to FY 2023 and FY 2024, reflecting delays in the project to renovate and upgrade the Knight Campus. This would provide \$1.5 million in FY 2023 and \$1.4 million in FY 2024. The Community College indicated that the last component of the project is the student services renovation aspect and that bids have been submitted and it is currently awaiting an award.

192. Capital - OPC Higher Education Centers. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$2.9 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds from FY 2022 to FY 2023, reflecting delays in the project to create an adult job training and workforce development site in northern Rhode Island. The Office now expects the site to open during late summer 2022, delayed from spring 2022.

193. Capital - RIC Asset Protection. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$4.1 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds for Rhode Island College's asset protection projects from FY 2022 to FY 2023, reflecting delays related to internal staffing issues, mainly the lack of a Capital Projects Project Manager. With that position recently hired, the College expects to utilize all funding in FY 2023.

194. Capital - URI Bay Campus. The approved plan includes \$45.0 million from general obligation bonds approved by the voters in 2018 and \$2.0 million from private funding for Phase I of the URI Narragansett Bay Campus Project. When submitting its capital request, the University indicated that the project was short \$10.0 million, but did not request additional funding to address the shortfall in that document. Subsequently, it indicated that the projected shortfall had risen to \$11.9 million. The House Finance Committee recommends \$12.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds to address the shortfall, this includes \$6.0 million in each FY 2023 and FY 2024.

The Governor also recommended \$50.0 million from general obligation bonds to be submitted to the voters on the November 2022 ballot to supplement \$7.0 million in private funding for Phase II of the project. Planned Phase II work includes the replacement of Horn Laboratories, the construction of the Ocean Engineering Research & Education Center, and the Wave and Acoustics Laboratory. The University noted a need for \$90.0 million for the Horn component. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$75 million for this project including \$50.0 million more for November 2022 ballot and \$25.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds over several years to bring Phase II funding to \$132.0 million.

195. CCRI Healthcare Workforce (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$547,175 from general revenues to support the training of certified nursing assistants, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses. This includes \$0.4 million for salaries and benefits for four positions within the Community College's current staffing authorization, \$0.1 million for student stipends, and \$60,000 for marketing and advertising.

196. CCRI Statewide Personnel Adjustment (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$24,470 from general revenues to restore an inadvertent statewide adjustment made in his budget.

197. Guaranty Agency Administration (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to remove \$13,917 from federal funds to maintain personnel and operating costs for the Division of Higher Education Assistance at the statutorily required level of \$0.4 million.

198. Higher Education Opportunities for Teachers of Color. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.2 million from general revenues to support access to higher education opportunities for teachers of color at the Rhode Island School for Progressive Education. Funding will support offsetting

the cost of attendance, help support faculty and clinical staff stipends, recruitment, and purchasing equipment.

199. RI Promise - College Crusade Scholarships. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.2 million from general revenues to account for its proposal to exempt the College Crusade Scholarship Act from being considered federal or financial aid for the purposes of the Promise Scholarship program.

200. RIC - Bioscience Certificate Development. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.7 million from general revenues to support the College's new initiative to implement a Certificate of Applied Biology and Biotechnology. Funding would support one staff and improvements to laboratory space and is expected to be matched by outside sources.

201. RIC Statewide Personnel Adjustment (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$0.4 million from general revenues to restore the inadvertent statewide adjustment made in his budget.

202. STEM Scholarship (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$35,000 from restricted receipts to fund scholarships for the study of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics at an accredited educational institution. The Division of Lottery's new contract with IGT requires it to pay \$35,000 on or before June 30 of each year beginning with 2022 and ending with 2042 to fund those scholarships.

Arts Council

203. ArtPlace America Grant. The House Finance Committee recommends excluding \$10,000 from restricted receipts included in the Governor's recommended budget from an ArtPlace America grant for the Council's Arts and Health Network Fellowship program. The Council indicates only \$10,000 remains and it anticipates expending the entirety in FY 2022.

204. Governor's Portrait Correction. The House Finance Committee recommends \$20,000 more from all funds for the Governor's Portrait Fund based on an updated project timeline available with the recent selection of an artist. This includes \$25,000 less from general revenues and \$45,000 more from restricted receipts. The Council indicates total costs for painting former Governor Raimondo's portrait are expected to be \$75,000, and this revision provides for \$30,000 in FY 2022 and \$45,000 in FY 2023.

205. Position Upgrades (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$96,230, including \$89,188 from general revenues and \$7,042 from federal funds, to upgrade five positions as requested by the Council. This initiative would raise the salary of the Executive Director position and reclassify four program manager positions under the new category of Senior Arts Program Specialist with associated salary and benefit increases.

Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

206. Artifact Relocation Grant. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$100,000 from federal funds to relocate and catalog historical artifacts currently housed in the basement of the Old State House to a central repository at the University of Rhode Island. The Commission's capital budget request included \$75,000 from a new federal grant for this project with a \$50,000 in-kind match for staff time. The Commission later testified the grant will be for \$100,000.

207. Old State House Renovations. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.5 million from a new federal grant for FY 2023 to fund accessibility renovations at the Old State House. The Governor

requested an amendment to include required matching funds in the Department of Administration's budget; the House Finance Committee concurs.

Attorney General

208. ARPA - Mental Health Treatment Court to General Revenues. The Governor's recommended budget includes \$0.2 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds for 2.0 new full-time equivalent positions to support the Mental Health Court Pilot Program. The House Finance Committee concurs with the new positions but recommends using general revenues in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds.

209. Legal Staff Upgrades. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$1.0 million from general revenues to provide pay grade increases for the Office's non-executive level staff-members. This equates to an average increase of about three percent. The Office indicated that providing raises will support staff recruitment and retention by reducing the difference between compensation in the Office compared to other state agencies and other public sector jobs in neighboring states.

Corrections

210. ARPA - Radio Systems to General Revenues. The Governor's budget includes \$2.7 million for FY 2023 from State Fiscal Recovery funds for the purchase and installation of an updated radio and communications system at the adult correctional institutions. The House Finance Committee provides total funding as requested but recommends general revenues in lieu of State Fiscal Recovery funds.

211. ARPA - Wi-Fi at the ACI to IT Fund. The Governor's budget includes \$3.1 million for FY 2023 from State Fiscal Recovery funds for the purchase and installation of the Wi-Fi systems at the adult correctional institutions. The House Finance Committee provides total funding as requested, but provides Information Technology Investment funds in place of State Fiscal Recovery funds.

212. Correctional Industries Loans Payback to FY 2022 (GBA). The Department's Correctional Industries expenses have exceeded revenues since FY 2016. Advances from the General Fund have covered the differences and those costs are currently \$1.9 million. The Governor intended to add \$1.9 million from general revenues to restore the General Fund and cover the current year's projected shortfall. His budget inadvertently provides \$1.7 million for FY 2023. The Governor subsequently requested amendment to provide \$1.9 million in FY 2022 instead. The House Finance Committee concurs with the requested amendment.

213. Correctional Officer Class Stipend Increase. The Department provides a \$1,000 biweekly stipend to correctional officer trainees granted during the Academy. The Governor subsequently requested two amendments which seek to raise the biweekly stipend from \$1,000 to \$1,300 per trainee in order to support recruitment of correctional officers. The total requested increase is \$210,000 and intends to provide funding for 50 correctional officer trainees; however, the revised recommendation inadvertently understates expected costs by \$60,000. The House Finance Committee corrects the error and provides a total of \$270,000 from general revenues, consistent with the intent of the amendments.

214. Healthcare Staff Enhancements (GBA). The Governor requested an amendment to include \$665,340 from general revenues for Department healthcare staff enhancements. Support includes \$487,340 for participation in the education pathways initiative, \$31,000 for an equipment allowance, \$59,000 for mentoring bonuses for training, and \$88,000 for recruitment incentives. The House Finance Committee concurs.

215. Information System Support (GBA). The Governor recommends \$0.7 million from general revenues for repairs and replacements of its various technology systems, as well as for its database

maintenance. The recommendation inadvertently understates maintenance costs for FY 2023. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to include an additional \$43,387 for maintenance costs to correct this error and the House Finance Committee concurs.

216. RIBCO Contract Reserve. The Governor adds \$7.0 million from general revenues to account for statewide adjustments consistent with his recent labor agreements. This assumes the pay increases also apply to non-union staff, but not to the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers, the Department's largest union, which is still negotiating. The House Finance Committee recommends an additional \$9.3 million from general revenues representing FY 2023 base costs if similar agreements are reached with costs for members of the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers.

217. Temporary Services Correction (GBA). The Governor's FY 2023 recommendation intended to exclude funding for temporary staff, consistent with the enacted budget; however, it inadvertently budgets savings of \$0.2 million bringing total funding below zero. The Governor subsequently requested an amendment to correct this error and the House Finance Committee concurs.

Judicial

218. ARPA - Mental Health Treatment Court to General Revenues. The Governor's recommended budget includes \$1.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to fund seven positions as part of a proposed Mental Health Court pilot program. The Judiciary requested general revenues for this same initiative. The House Finance Committee recommends general revenues in lieu of the federal funds, consistent with the Judiciary's request.

219. Child Support Enforcement Expansion (6.0 FTE). The Governor's recommendation does not fund the Judiciary's requested expansion of the Child Support Enforcement Unit for Family Court to allow for these cases to be heard on a separate calendar. The request included \$0.9 million and authorization for six new positions; two-thirds of the cost would be supported by federal funds, provided the calendar is separate from all other types of cases heard in Family Court. This expansion would provide full service to Kent and Washington counties, which currently only hear these cases once per week. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.9 million, including \$0.3 million from general revenues and six positions for the requested expansion.

220. Mental Health Treatment Court Evaluation Grant (GBA). The Governor recommended \$1.0 million to support a Mental Health Treatment Court requested by the Judiciary. Subsequent to submission of the budget request, the Judiciary reported the District Court had received a new three-year, \$0.5 million mental health pretrial diversion grant from Office of Justice Programs. The Governor requested an amendment to add \$213,575 from federal funds for a mental health court clinic necessary to determine eligibility and track progress. The House Finance Committee concurs.

Military Staff

221. Airport Agreement Correction. The House Finance Committee recommends \$32,082 less from general revenues for National Guard use of the Quonset State Airport for training and parking of military planes. This is consistent with the agency's request and reflects the actual cost of the contract for FY 2023.

222. Capital - Armory of Mounted Commands. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$0.4 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds from FY 2022 to FY 2023, reflecting delays in a project to rehabilitate the Armory of Mounted Commands facility. The Military Staff indicates the project scope and construction bids are still being evaluated and that no funds are expected to be spent during FY 2022.

223. Capital - Aviation Readiness Center. The approved capital plan includes \$2.9 million to construct a National Guard Readiness Center to support training, administrative, and logistical requirements of the 1-126 Aviation Unit of the Rhode Island Army National Guard. The Military Staff indicates the federal National Guard Bureau has shifted construction from FY 2024 to FY 2025 and that \$1.0 million in the approved plan for FY 2023 for remediation costs will not be needed until construction begins. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$2.6 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds, including \$1.0 million in FY 2023 and \$1.6 million in FY 2024, to FY 2025 and FY 2026 respectively. This leaves \$138,272 from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in FY 2023 for design work still expected to go forward.

224. Counterdrug Asset Forfeiture Correction. The House Finance Committee recommends excluding \$5.3 million from federal funds included in the Governor's FY 2023 budget recommendation to construct a new counterdrug facility at Camp Fogarty in East Greenwich. The exclusion would be consistent with the Military Staff's intent and the Governor's capital budget, which includes \$5.0 million in FY 2022 and no funding in FY 2023.

225. Firefighter Injured on Duty (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to shift \$252,460 from federal funds to general revenues for firefighter personnel expenses. This is in line with anticipated payments to firefighters on injured on duty status. Firefighter personnel expenses are paid for from federal funds unless an individual is on injured on duty status, in which case general revenue funding must be used.

226. Maintenance Correction. The House Finance Committee recommends \$0.4 million less from federal funds to correct an error in the Governor's recommendation for building maintenance and repairs.

Public Safety

227. Adult Use Cannabis (3.0 FTE). The Governor's budget includes a proposal for a new adult use marijuana program and \$1.1 million from restricted receipts in the Department of Public Safety's budget. The House Finance Committee recommends excluding the expenses based on different legislation passed in May.

228. ARPA - Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence. The Governor recommends \$4.5 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to provide awards to nonprofits to provide housing, clinical, and mental health services to victims of domestic violence and assault, including \$1.0 million for FY 2023 and \$3.5 million for FY 2024. This would increase investments for therapy and counseling, housing assistance, job training, relocation aid, and case management and cover grant shortfalls from federal changes. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$6.0 million from federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to provide \$3.5 million each year from FY 2023 to FY 2025, after which federal grants are expected to have recovered to historical levels.

229. Body-Worn Camera Project Shift from FY 2023. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$15.0 million from general revenues to purchase body cameras for the State Police and municipalities from FY 2022 to FY 2023 to reflect a delay in the promulgation of rules and regulations. The enacted budget included \$15.0 million from general revenues to purchase body cameras for the State Police and municipalities, but prevents any funding being spent prior to rules and regulations being promulgated and states that any unspent balances as of June 30, 2022 will be reappropriated to FY 2023.

230. Capital - State Police Training Academy Upgrades. The House Finance Committee recommends shifting \$0.9 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds from FY 2022 to FY 2023 reflecting project delays. This would provide \$0.2 million for FY 2022 and \$0.9 million for FY 2023.

231. E-911 Supervisors (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested budget amendment to add \$55,470 from restricted receipts to convert 3.0 telecommunicator positions to supervisor positions per a recent union negotiation approval relating to the implementation of the new emergency medical dispatch requirements for the 911 system.

232. State Trooper Contract Settlement. The Governor's recommended budget did not include funding for statewide staffing adjustments for the Rhode Island State Troopers Association as contract negotiations were completed subsequent to the budget being submitted. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$8.4 million, including \$7.9 million from general revenues, based on the Budget Office estimate of the value of the newly finalized contract.

233. Technical Correction. The Governor's budget intends to include no funding from the federal Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program funds from the Department of Justice; however, inadvertently budgets savings of \$0.4 million. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.4 million to bring total funding to zero.

Public Defender

234. Attorney (1.0 FTE). The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$0.1 million from general revenues for one new attorney to increase the staffing level from 99.0 full-time equivalent positions to 100.0 positions for FY 2023.

Emergency Management Agency

235. Emergency Response Positions (2.0 FTE). The Agency requested 6.0 new positions to alleviate issues and shortcomings identified during the pandemic in order to enhance future emergency responses. The Governor did not include the requested funding or positions. The House Finance Committee provides \$0.3 million from general revenues and authorization for two additional emergency response positions.

Environmental Management

236. ARPA - Permit and Licensing IT to IT Fund. The Governor recommends \$5.8 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to make improvements to the Department of Environmental Management's information technology for online permit and licensing systems for environmental and agriculture permitting, fish and wildlife, commercial fishing, and boating registration. Funding is programmed as \$2.8 million for FY 2023, \$2.0 million for FY 2024, and \$0.5 million each for FY 2025 and FY 2026. The House Finance Committee recommends funding this project from the Information Technology Investment Fund; these expenditures appear in the Department of Administration's budget.

237. Capital - ARPA Galilee Piers. The House Finance Committee recommends \$46.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to make infrastructure improvements to the Port of Galilee to increase services for commercial fishing and related businesses. This is in addition to the \$18.3 million from Rhode Island Capital Funds recommended in the capital budget for FY 2022 through FY 2027 for a total of \$64.3 million.

238. Local Agriculture and Seafood Grants. The House Finance Committee recommends \$700,000 from general revenues for the Local Agriculture and Seafood Act grant program, which is \$600,000 more than enacted and \$450,000 more than the Governor recommended. This reflects a commitment of \$200,000 of annual ongoing support and an additional \$500,000 in one-time funding for FY 2023. This program provides grants to local agriculture and food businesses to support the growth, development, and marketing of local food and seafood in the state. The program is funded from general revenues and private

contributions from the van Beuren Charitable Foundation, the Henry P. Kendall Foundation, and the Rhode Island Foundation.

239. Trust Fund Expense Corrections. The House Finance Committee recommends removing \$250,000 that was mistakenly requested from environmental trust and water and air protection restricted receipts for the payment of claims. The Governor recommended funding as requested but the Department did not intend to request any funding for this purpose in either FY 2022 or FY 2023.

240. World Ocean Race (GBA). The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$850,000 from general revenues for the World Ocean Race in conjunction with Sail Newport, which will take place at Fort Adams State Park in Newport in July 2023. The Department of Environmental Management is responsible for providing security, general clean-up, and other operating support. The state spent \$0.8 million in 2018 as part of the Volvo Race's North American Stopover event. The recommended funding includes \$140,000 in overtime costs for state employees, \$10,000 for operating expenses, and \$700,000 for Sail Newport.

241. Water Chestnut Eradication. The House Finance Committee recommends \$100,000 from general revenues for FY 2023 to aid the City of Central Falls with spraying and other methods to inhibit the growth and spread of water chestnuts in Valley Falls Pond and other areas in the lower Blackstone River watershed. This would fund a five-year process that is required to achieve full eradication of the water chestnuts. Water chestnut is a highly competitive plant that is capable of rapid growth and spread. It displaces native species, reduces biodiversity, hampers recreational uses, reduces real estate value, and diminishes aesthetic values.

Coastal Resources Management Council

242. Hearing Officer (1.0 FTE). The Governor's budget proposes to amend current law to allow for a part-time position and replaces the requirement that the hearing officer not practice law, nor be a law firm partner or associate while holding this position with a requirement for the hearing officer to not participate in any case in which the hearing officer is an interested party. The House Finance Committee recommends adding \$150,000 from general revenues to the recommendation to cover 1.0 new hearing officer position.

Transportation

243. ARPA - R-Line - Free Service Pilot. The House Finance Committee recommends \$2.5 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds to support a free fare bus route service pilot program along the R-Line. This one-year pilot program will begin on September 1, 2022. The Authority will track ridership data and submit a report to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Governor by March 1, 2024.

244. ARPA - Turnpike and Bridge Authority - Safety Barriers Study. The House Finance Committee recommends \$1.0 million from State Fiscal Recovery funds for the Turnpike and Bridge Authority to conduct a study to identify and evaluate the options to prevent and address the risk of suicide on bridges under its purview. The Committee requires that the selection of a vendor to conduct the study be done through a request for proposals Process.

245. Capital - ARPA - Pawtucket/Central Falls Transit Facility. The House Finance Committee recommends \$5.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds, in lieu of federal State Fiscal Recovery funds to enhance the Pawtucket/Central Falls Transit Hub Facility project to include passenger restrooms, waiting areas, a customer service area, and a break room for the Authority's employees. This includes \$4.0 million in FY 2023 and \$1.0 million in FY 2024. Rhode Island Capital Plan funds were used to match the original project that this project is proposing to enhance.

246. Capital - Highway Improvement Program (GBA). The Highway Improvement Program represents those highway and intermodal projects that utilize federal funds administered by the Federal Highway Administration. The Governor's recommendation allocates \$71.3 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds over three years to match additional federal funds authorized in the Infrastructure Act. He requested an amendment to add \$10.0 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds to match \$40.0 million from federal funds received subsequent to the budget submission for bridge replacement projects and reduce previously recommended funds by \$6.0 million, as federal funds for that project were not approved, for a net increase of \$3.9 million. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to include an additional \$3.9 million over three years, including \$2.9 million in FY 2023 to match additional federal funds received.

247. Capital - RIPTA Land & Buildings Project (GBA). The Governor's recommendation allocated an additional \$28.7 million from Rhode Island Capital Plan funds over three years for the Authority to match additional federal funds authorized in the Infrastructure Act. This includes \$4.9 million to match a discretionary project to renovate the Melrose Avenue garage. The Federal Transit Administration did not approve federal funds for the project; however, the Authority did receive \$4.0 million in federal earmarked funds for electrification of the Newport Bus Facility. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendments to adjust funding for the grant that the Authority did not receive and to provide \$1.0 million match for the Newport Bus Facility. This resulted in a net reduction of \$3.9 million, including \$50,000 in FY 2023, \$1.8 million in FY 2024, and \$2.1 million for FY 2025.

248. Gas Tax - GARVEE Bonds Yield. The House Finance Committee recommends increasing expenditures for GARVEE bonds debt service, which are paid for with the equivalent of two cents of the gasoline tax, by \$0.1 million to reflect an upward revision of the gasoline tax yield estimate.

249. Gas Tax - Turnpike and Bridge Authority Yield. The House Finance Committee recommends adjusting available gasoline tax in the Department of Transportation based on an increased transfer to the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority of \$0.2 million to reflect an upward revision to the gasoline tax yield estimate. The FY 2023 enacted budget would include \$16.1 million to the Authority.

250. HMA and Gas Tax - DOT Yield. Based on an upward revision to the gas tax yield and updated estimates to highway maintenance funds, the House Finance Committee recommends increasing expenditures in the Maintenance Division by \$1.9 million to reflect anticipated resources.

251. Public Railroad Corporation Insurance Costs (GBA). The Governor's recommended budgets inadvertently reduced expenditures for insurance and for right-of-way access fees by \$3.4 million, for which the enacted budget includes \$4.4 million from federal funds. The House Finance Committee concurs with the Governor's requested amendment to add \$3.3 million, reflecting updated expenses.

252. RIPTA - Gas Tax Yield and HMA Adjustments - Paratransit Study. The House Finance Committee recommends a transfer of \$54.6 million from gasoline tax proceeds and highway maintenance funds to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority. This is \$509,889 more than the recommended budget, including \$460,677 more to reflect an upward revision to the gasoline tax yield estimate and \$49,212 more for the Authority's share of the highway maintenance account based on updated estimates. The House Finance Committee further recommends that the Authority uses \$75,000 of this amount to fund the statewide transit access study for passengers with disabilities.