



Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5097
TTY: 711
www.health.ri.gov

February 9, 2022

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney
Chairman
House Committee on Finance
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: H7123 - AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE
STATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 (ARTICLE 2-RELATING
TO STATE FUNDS

Dear Chairman Abney:

Please accept this letter in support of H7123, Article 2 -Relating to State Funds. Among other things, Article 2 would set up a restricted receipt account and exempt indirect cost recoveries of ten percent (10%) of cash receipts from the proposed Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Adult Use Marijuana Program restricted receipt account.

In the Governor's proposed budget, \$371,407 in restricted receipts is recommended for 2.0 FTE positions and operations support to access and mitigate the public health impacts of adult-use marijuana legalization. Specifically, this funding would be dedicated to public health prevention and surveillance activities targeting vulnerable populations including, but not limited to, young adults and adolescents, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. McDonald, MD, MPH". The signature is stylized and cursive.

James V. McDonald, MD, MPH
Interim Director

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House