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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015**

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**S E N A T E R E S O L U T I O N**

**RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE,  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND HOSPITALS CREATE RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR STANDARDS AND FINANCING OF RECOVERY HOUSING FACILITIES AND  
PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT**

Introduced By: Senators Lynch, Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Walaska, and Miller

Date Introduced: January 22, 2015

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

1           WHEREAS, Many Rhode Islanders strive on a daily basis to overcome substance use  
2 disorders. Thanks to a cadre of caring professionals in the Ocean State and to an outstanding  
3 array of organizations whose missions focus on prevention and treatment, many of those in  
4 recovery have access to programs that support their progress; and

5           WHEREAS, Even as they participate in treatment programs, some Rhode Islanders in  
6 recovery lack a safe place to live, which can limit their improvement. For these individuals,  
7 community-based recovery housing provides the stability they need to move forward. Recovery  
8 houses, which combine shelter with access to proven programs, are an integral part of a  
9 continuum of services. In Rhode Island, a network of recovery houses provides constructive,  
10 substance free living environments that promote positive outcomes for their residents; and

11           WHEREAS, Recovery houses in Rhode Island operate with considerable autonomy and  
12 often without established standards or financing mechanisms, which may lead to differences in  
13 quality that, in turn, impact the recovery process. The lack of established standards may also be a  
14 source of concern to those communities that host recovery houses. Individuals in recovery, as  
15 well as Rhode Island's municipalities and neighborhoods, would benefit from the development of  
16 a set of state standards and recommendations for financing for recovery housing facilities and  
17 programs for residential substance use treatment; now, therefore be it

18           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 hereby respectfully requests that the Director of the Department of Behavioral Healthcare,  
2 Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH) creates recommendations for a set of  
3 standards and options for financing of recovery housing facilities and programs for residential  
4 substance use treatment, to be used by such facilities in Rhode Island; and be it further

5         RESOLVED, That this Senate respectfully requests the Director of BHDDH to submit a  
6 report to the Senate President and to the Chairs of the Senate Health and Human Services and  
7 Finance Committees on or before January 7, 2016, that describes recommendations for the  
8 standards and for the financing of recovery housing facilities and programs for residential  
9 substance use treatment; and be it further

10         RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Department of Behavioral  
12 Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, and the Secretary of the Executive Office  
13 of Health and Human Services.

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