

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI
RESOLUTION # 2018-_____

In Support of Immediate Passage of House Bill 7221 and Senate Bill 2025
THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

WHEREAS: The State of Rhode Island is facing a public health crisis related to widespread substance abuse - ranking 3rd in the nation for severity, and 5th for opioids abuse;

WHEREAS: Our municipal prevention coalitions have been severely underfunded, and in fact received virtually no state funds at all for support of local, grassroots programs to fight our continuing problem with youth and young adult substance abuse;

WHEREAS: Nearly all funding for substance abuse prevention efforts comes from federal grants, many of which require commitment of matching state funds;

WHEREAS: RI has been non-compliant for several years in committing those required matching State funds, causing growing risk of loss of these critical federal grants;

WHEREAS: Pending legislation in the House (H-7221) and Senate (S-2025) will provide significant new sources of revenue (from traffic violations) for dedicated use in local prevention efforts and school-based student assistance programs;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portsmouth Town Council urges the Rhode Island House and Senate to pass H-7221 and S-2025 and the Governor to sign the bill into law so that urgently needed resources can be made available to local substance abuse prevention and assistance programs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk submit a copy of this resolution to the Town of Portsmouth's State Senator and Representatives, the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, and the Governor. Adopted this _____ day of February, 2018.

Keith Hamilton, President,
Portsmouth Town Council

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer West
Town Clerk