

2026 -- H 7576

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S T A T E O F R H O D E I S L A N D

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

Introduced By: Representatives Kislak, Potter, Serpa, Cortvriend, McGaw, Boylan, Caldwell, Cotter, Spears, and Carson

Date Introduced: February 06, 2026

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 38-2 of the General Laws entitled "Access to Public Records" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **38-2-17. Traffic accidents and improvement data.**

4 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter or state law, any records that, under

5 23 U.S.C. § 407, are not discoverable or admissible in court proceedings or allowed to be

6 considered for other purposes in damage actions shall nonetheless be deemed public records;

7 provided, however, the records may not be used for purposes prohibited by that federal statute.

8 When making the record public, whether in response to a request pursuant to this chapter, or

9 otherwise, a public body may provide written notice of the aforementioned restrictions on their use.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

- 1 This act would make traffic accident data a public record, subject to federal law.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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