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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN  
FAMILY COURT

Introduced By: Senators Tikoian, LaMountain, Ciccone, Gallo, Burke, McKenney,  
Patalano, Bissaillon, Raptakis, and Paolino  
Date Introduced: January 09, 2026

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 14-1-59 of the General Laws in Chapter 14-1 entitled "Proceedings  
2 in Family Court" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **14-1-59. Cooperation of public and private agencies.**

4           It is made the duty of every state, town, or municipal official or department, including, but  
5 not limited to, the department of children, youth, and families, the department of health, the  
6 department of human services, the department of elementary and secondary education, [every school](#)  
7 [district](#), the office of substance abuse, and the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental  
8 disabilities and hospitals, to render all assistance and cooperation within his, her, or its jurisdictional  
9 power which may further the objects of this chapter. All institutions or agencies providing services  
10 to any child are required to give to the court any information concerning the child that the court  
11 may require. The court is authorized to seek the cooperation of all societies or organizations having  
12 for their object the protection or aid of children, and their physical or spiritual welfare; and the  
13 court shall utilize the available services of all of those societies and organizations.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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- 1           This act would require every school district to render assistance and cooperation within its
- 2   jurisdictional power to further the objectives of this chapter, to wit, providing the courts with any
- 3   information concerning a child as the court may require.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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