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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION

Introduced By: Senators de la Cruz, Ciccone, Dimitri, Burke, Patalano, and Rogers

Date Introduced: January 16, 2026

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-128.1 of the General Laws entitled "Lead Hazard Mitigation" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **42-128.1-15. Safe harbor provision for landlords.**

4 (a) This section shall apply to any landlord required to obtain a lead certificate pursuant to
5 this chapter which landlord is unable to comply with the sections of this chapter regarding obtaining
6 a lead certificate due to the fact the state does not have adequate resources to conduct inspections
7 and enforce the current law.

8 (b) If a landlord meets the qualifications under subsection (a) of this section, the landlord
9 shall certify to the state that the landlord followed the lead mitigation law pursuant to this chapter
10 as of September 1, 2024.

11 (c) If a landlord meets the qualifications under both subsections (a) and (b) of this section,
12 the state shall not fine that landlord if the landlord's property is not inspected and formally certified
13 by the state within the current statutory deadline.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- LEAD HAZARD MITIGATION

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- This act would allow a landlord that did not obtain a lead certificate pursuant to the lead mitigation laws of chapter 128.1 of title 42 due to the fact that the state lacks the adequate resources to conduct inspections. The act also would provide that if the landlord certifies that the landlord followed all lead mitigation law requirements as of September 1, 2024, the landlord would not be fined for the lack of a lead certificate.
- This act would take effect upon passage.

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