

2012 -- H 7268

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LC00596  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE GENERALLY - LEVY  
AND SALE ON EXECUTION

Introduced By: Representative Robert B. Jacquard

Date Introduced: January 26, 2012

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 9-26-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 9-26 entitled "Levy and Sale  
2 on Execution" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **9-26-4. Property exempt from attachment. --** The following goods and property shall  
4 be exempt from attachment on any warrant of distress or on any other writ, original, mesne, or  
5 judicial:

6 (1) The necessary wearing apparel of a debtor or of the debtor's family, if he or she has a  
7 family.

8 (2) The working tools of a debtor necessary in the debtor's usual occupation, not  
9 exceeding in value the sum of ~~one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500)~~ two thousand dollars  
10 (\$2,000), and the professional library of any professional person in actual practice.

11 (3) The household furniture, clothing, and family stores of a ~~housekeeper in the whole,~~  
12 debtor, including beds and bedding, not exceeding in value the sum of nine thousand six hundred  
13 dollars (\$9,600).

14 (4) The bibles, school books, and other books in use in the family, not exceeding in value  
15 the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300).

16 (5) The debtor's interest in one lot or right of burial, as the case may be, in any cemetery.

17 (6) Wages due or accruing to any sailor.

18 (7) Debts secured by bills of exchange or negotiable promissory notes.

1 (8) (i) The entire salary or wages of any debtor due or payable from any charitable  
2 corporation, or from any person or corporation engaged in the disbursement or administration of  
3 any public charitable fund or money, whenever the salaries or wages are to be paid or supplied,  
4 directly or indirectly, from any fund or money appropriated or contributed for the relief of the  
5 poor or in aid of unemployment, and the debtor is the object of the relief or aid.

6 (ii) The entire wages or salary of any debtor due or payable from any employer, where  
7 the debtor has been the object of relief from any state, federal, or municipal corporation or agency  
8 for a period of one year from and after the time when the debtor ceases to be the object of such  
9 relief.

10 (iii) The salary or wages due or payable to any other debtor, not exceeding the sum of  
11 fifty dollars (\$50.00).

12 (9) The salary and wages of the wife and the minor children of any debtor.

13 (10) Such other property, real, personal, or mixed, in possession or actions as is or shall  
14 be exempted from attachment and execution, either permanently or temporarily, by general or  
15 special acts, charters of incorporation, or by the policy of the law.

16 (11) An individual retirement account or individual retirement annuity as defined in  
17 sections 408 and 408A of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. sections 408 and 408A, and the  
18 payments or distributions from such an account or annuity, except that this exemption does not  
19 apply to any of the following:

20 (i) An order of a court pursuant to a judgment of divorce or separate maintenance.

21 (ii) An order of a court concerning child support.

22 (iii) Contributions to an individual retirement account or premiums on an individual  
23 retirement annuity, including the earnings or benefits from those contributions or premiums, that  
24 constitute an excess contribution within the meaning of Section 4973 of the Internal Revenue  
25 Code [26 U.S.C. section 4973\_.

26 (12) The right or interest of a person in an annuity, pension, profit sharing, or other  
27 retirement plan protected by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, Public Law  
28 93-406, 29 U.S.C. section 1001 et seq. This exemption shall also apply to the operation of the  
29 Federal Bankruptcy Code, as permitted by Section 522(d)(10)(E) of Title 11 of the United States  
30 Code, 11 U.S.C. section 522(d)(10)(E). This exemption shall not apply to the right or interest of a  
31 person in an annuity, pension, profit sharing, or other retirement plan to the extent that that right  
32 or interest is subject to any of the following:

33 (i) An order of the court pursuant to a judgment of divorce or separated maintenance.

34 (ii) An order of a court concerning child support.

1           This exemption shall not apply to contributions to and the earnings of any of the  
2 retirement plans enumerated in this subdivision that are not qualified retirement plans as defined  
3 by Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. section 401.

4           (13) Any and all motor vehicles owned by the debtor not to exceed an aggregate total of  
5 twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000).

6           (14) Any and all jewelry owned by the debtor not to exceed an aggregate total of two  
7 thousand dollars (\$2,000).

8           (15) An account balance, right, or interest of a person in a "prepaid tuition program" or a  
9 "tuition savings program" as defined in section 16-57-3(10) and (16), respectively. This  
10 exemption shall not apply to a balance, right, or interest to the extent that the balance, right, or  
11 interest is subject to any of the following:

12           (i) An order of a court pursuant to a judgment of divorce or separate maintenance;

13           (ii) An order of a court concerning child support.

14           (16) In addition to the exemptions herein, a debtor in bankruptcy may exempt an  
15 additional ~~five thousand dollars (\$5,000)~~ six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500) in any assets.

16           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 increase the exemption from attachment for working tools of a debtor  
2 from one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and would also  
3 increase the exemption for a debtor in bankruptcy in any assets from five thousand dollars  
4 (\$5,000) to six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500).

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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