

2012 -- H 7339

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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 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, and Naughton

Date Introduced: February 02, 2012

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 87

4 TOBACCO CONTROL PROGRAM

5 23-87-1. Legislative findings. – Cigarette smoking presents serious public health
6 concerns to the state and to the citizens of the state. The surgeon general has determined that
7 smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease and other serious diseases, and that there are hundreds
8 of thousands of tobacco related deaths in the United States each year. These diseases most often
9 do not appear until many years after the person begins smoking.

10 23-87-2. Tobacco Control Program. – (a) For fiscal years 2013 and 2014, the governor
11 and general assembly shall include at least three million, one hundred thousand dollars
12 (\$3,100,000) in the annual budget for appropriations to the state department of health to
13 implement the tobacco control program and for programs and activities aimed at reducing
14 tobacco use in Rhode Island as recommended by the centers for disease control and prevention, or
15 its successor agency, to prevent and reduce tobacco use, reduce exposure to secondhand smoke,
16 encourage cessation efforts, and identify and eliminate disparities related to tobacco use and its
17 effects among different population groups.

18 (b) Commencing fiscal year 2015 and each fiscal year thereafter, the governor and
19 general assembly shall include in the annual budget in appropriations an additional five hundred

1 thousand (\$500,000) to the amount allocated to the department of health tobacco control program
2 in the previous year for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section until total funding
3 for the program has reached the level of funding recommended by the United States centers for
4 disease control and prevention, or its successor agency.

5 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 HEALTH AND SAFETY

1 This act would create the Tobacco Control Program designed to help reduce tobacco use
2 in Rhode Island.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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