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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced By: Representatives Cimini, Bennett, Naughton, Tomasso, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

(OHHS)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-12-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-12 entitled  
2 "Department of Human Services" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-12-19. Permanent advisory commission on traumatic brain injuries --**

4 **Commission established.** -- (a) There is hereby established a permanent advisory commission on  
5 traumatic brain injuries.

6 (b) The purpose of the commission shall be to:

7 (1) Report on all matters relating to traumatic brain injury in Rhode Island to the  
8 governor and the general assembly.

9 (2) Advise [the executive office of health and human services](#), the department of human  
10 services, the department of ~~mental health, retardation~~ [behavioral healthcare, developmental](#)  
11 [disabilities](#) and hospitals, and the department of health regarding the development of priorities  
12 and criteria for disbursement of moneys in response to both individual requests and grant-seeking  
13 entities from the traumatic brain injury fund. Such priorities and criteria shall be in accordance  
14 with the expenditure guidelines set forth in section 42-12-28 of this chapter.

15 (3) Advise [the executive office of health and human services](#), the department of human  
16 services, the department of ~~mental health, retardation~~ [behavioral healthcare, developmental](#)  
17 [disabilities](#) and hospitals, and the department of health on all matters regarding traumatic brain  
18 injury.

1 (c) The commission shall consist of ~~nineteen (19)~~ twenty (20) members. They shall meet  
2 not less than four (4) times a year and report their findings annually to the governor and general  
3 assembly. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation. The commissioners  
4 shall elect their own officers on a biennial basis.

5 (d) The membership of the commission shall be as follows: The secretary of the  
6 executive office of health and human services or his or her designee, the director of the  
7 department of ~~mental health, retardation~~ behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and  
8 hospitals or his or her designee; the director of the department of health or his or her designee; the  
9 director of the department of human services or his or her designee; the director of the department  
10 of education or his or her designee, all of whom shall serve ex-officio; the chief of neurosurgery  
11 at Rhode Island Hospital or his or her designee; the president and executive director or two (2)  
12 designees of the Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island; the director of the Rhode Island  
13 Disability Law Center or his or her designee; the governor or his or her designee; and ten (10)  
14 persons appointed by the governor as follows: two (2) persons who are unrelated, one of whom  
15 must have a traumatic brain injury, and one of whom may be an immediate family member of an  
16 individual with a traumatic brain injury; one person who is a neurologist; one person who is a  
17 psychiatrist; one person who is a neuropsychologist; one person who is a cognitive rehabilitation  
18 specialist; one of whom is a traumatic brain injury case manager; one of whom is a physical  
19 therapist or occupational therapist; one of whom is a representative of a post-acute rehabilitation  
20 facility; and one person who is a community-based service provider.

21 (e) The first meeting of the members of the commission shall be called to order by the  
22 governor or his or her designee within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this act [July 7,  
23 2006] Of the ten (10) members appointed by the governor, three (3) shall serve a term of one  
24 year, three (3) shall serve a term of two (2) years, and four (4) shall serve a term of three (3)  
25 years. Upon expiration of the initial term, commission members shall serve terms of three (3)  
26 years. The initial terms of commission members shall be determined by lot.

27 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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
SERVICES

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1           This act would add the secretary of the executive office of health and human services to  
2 the commission on traumatic brain injuries and updates the name change of the department of  
3 behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals.

4           This at would take effect upon passage.

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