

2013 -- S 0354

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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 DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES

Introduced By: Senators Lombardi, Jabour, Gallo, Lynch, and Archambault

Date Introduced: February 13, 2013

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 15-3-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 15-3 entitled "Solemnization
2 of Marriages" is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 **15-3-5. Officials empowered to join persons in marriage.** -- Every ordained clergy or
4 elder in good standing, every justice of the supreme court, superior court, family court, workers'
5 compensation court, district court or traffic tribunal, the clerk of the supreme court, every clerk or
6 general chief clerk of a superior court, family court, district court, or traffic tribunal, magistrates,
7 special or general magistrates of the superior court, family court, traffic tribunal or district court,
8 administrative clerks of the district court, administrators of the workers' compensation court,
9 [every justice of the peace](#), every former justice or judge and former administrator of these courts
10 and every former chief clerk of the district court, and every former clerk or general chief clerk of
11 a superior court, the secretary of the senate, elected clerks of the general assembly, any former
12 secretary of the senate or any former elected clerk of the general assembly who retires after July
13 1, 2007, judges of the United States appointed pursuant to Article III of the United States
14 Constitution, bankruptcy judges appointed pursuant to Article I of the United States Constitution,
15 and United States magistrate judges appointed pursuant to federal law, may join persons in
16 marriage in any city or town in this state; and every justice and every former justice of the
17 municipal courts of the cities and towns in this state and of the police court of the town of
18 Johnston and every probate judge and every former probate judge may join persons in marriage in
19 any city or town in this state, and wardens of the town of New Shoreham may join persons in

1 marriage in New Shoreham.

2 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 authorize and empower justices of the peace to join persons in marriage.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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