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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

Introduced By: Senator William A. Walaska

Date Introduced: March 13, 2013

Referred To: Senate Commerce

(Public Utilities)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-3 of the General Laws entitled "Regulatory Powers of
2 Administration" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **39-3-45. Confidentiality of records. -- (a) Any records of the division or commission**
4 **pertaining to a customer of a public utility shall be confidential; provided, however, that customer**
5 **records determined to be relevant and admissible during a proceeding before the commission or**
6 **division and which are disclosed during that proceeding shall be deemed public.**

7 **(b) The administrator of the division, or his/her designee, may disclose pertinent**
8 **customer information to other state departments, public or private agencies, or medical personnel**
9 **when it is deemed appropriate by the administrator in order to safeguard the health and welfare of**
10 **the customer and/or the customer's family members.**

11 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 the administrator of the division to seek the assistance of other
- 2 state departments, public or private agencies, or medical personnel in the interest of safeguarding
- 3 the health and welfare of a utility customer whose utility services are slated for termination.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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