

2014 -- H 7208

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LC003047
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Giarrusso, Costa, Chippendale, and Trillo

Date Introduced: January 29, 2014

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 22-12-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 22-12 entitled "Fiscal
2 Notes" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **22-12-1. When fiscal notes required.** – (a) All bills and resolutions having an effect on
4 the revenues, expenditures, or fiscal liability of the state, which can be calculated with reasonable
5 accuracy, excepting appropriation measures carrying specific dollar amounts, shall be
6 accompanied by a brief explanatory statement or note which sets forth their estimated dollar
7 effect. The statements or notes shall be known as "fiscal notes," and they shall accompany each
8 such bill or resolution prior to consideration of the house in which the bill or resolution
9 originated. Fiscal notes shall also accompany each bill or resolution that affects any city or town
10 financially.

11 **(b) Before any legislative committee may consider a bill or resolution that requires a**
12 **fiscal note pursuant to this section, every member of that committee shall be provided with its**
13 **fiscal note at least three (3) days before the committee hears the bill or resolution.**

14 **(c) The fiscal note requirement of this section may be waived by a unanimous vote of all**
15 **legislative committee members at the public hearing considering the bill or resolution that has**
16 **been properly posted for consideration.**

17 **(d) The fiscal note requirement of this section cannot be abrogated by the adoption of any**
18 **rule by the Rhode Island house of representatives or senate.**

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1 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 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1 This act would dispense with the requirement for a fiscal note for any bill or resolution
2 which a legislative committee is considering if its members unanimously vote to do so and the
3 bill or resolution is properly posted. It would prevent the general assembly from adopting any
4 rules that would abolish the need for a statutorily required fiscal note. Finally, it would mandate
5 that all state legislative committee members that are considering any bill or resolution that needs
6 a fiscal note, be provided with that fiscal note, at least three (3) days before the committee
7 hearing scheduled to consider it.

8 This act would take effect upon passage.

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