# 2014 -- H 7460

LC004330

#### STATE RHODE ISLAND O F

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014**

## AN ACT

### RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR **ACTIONS**

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, Giarrusso, Marcello, Costantino, and Marshall

Date Introduced: February 12, 2014

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 10-6-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 10-6 entitled "Contribution
- 2 Among Joint Tortfeasors" is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 3 10-6-2. "Joint tortfeasors" defined. -- (a) For the purposes of this chapter, the term
- "joint tortfeasors" means two (2) or more persons jointly or severally liable in tort for the same 4
- 5 injury to person or property, whether or not judgment has been recovered against all or some of
- 6 them; provided, however, that a master and servant or principal and agent shall be considered a
- 7 single tortfeasor.
- 8 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), no party shall be deemed jointly liable in tort for an
- 9 injury to person or property unless it is determined that such person is at least fifty-one percent
- 10 (51%) liable in tort for the injury to person or property.
- 11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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# **EXPLANATION**

# BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

# AN ACT

# RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS

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This act would provide that no party would be deemed jointly liable in tort for an injury to person or property unless it is determined that such person is at least fifty-one percent (51%) liable in tort for the injury.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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