

2014 -- H 7573

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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 HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PUBLIC HEALTH AND WORKPLACE SAFETY
ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Tanzi, Shekarchi, O`Grady, Cimini, and Ajello

Date Introduced: February 26, 2014

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-20.10-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-20.10 entitled
2 "Public Health and Workplace Safety Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-20.10-2. Definitions. --** The following words and phrases, whenever used in this
4 chapter, shall be construed as defined in this section:

5 (1) "Assisted living residence" means a residence that provides personal assistance, and
6 meals to adults in accordance with chapter 17.4 of this title.

7 (2) "Bar" means an establishment that is devoted to the serving of alcoholic beverages
8 for consumption by guests on the premises and in which the serving of food is only incidental to
9 the consumption of those beverages, including, but not limited to, taverns, nightclubs, cocktail
10 lounges and cabarets.

11 (3) "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or
12 other business entity formed for profit-making purposes, including retail establishments where
13 goods or services are sold as well as professional corporations and other entities where legal,
14 medial, dental, engineering, architectural or other professional services are delivered.

15 (4) "Employee" means a person who is employed by an employer in consideration for
16 direct or indirect monetary wages or profit, and a person who volunteers his or her services for a
17 nonprofit entity.

18 (5) "Employer" means a person, business, partnership, association, corporation,

1 including a municipal corporation, trust or nonprofit entity that employs the services of one or
2 more individual persons.

3 (6) "Enclosed area" means all space between a floor and ceiling that is enclosed on all
4 sides by solid walls or windows (exclusive of doorways), which extend from the floor to the
5 ceiling.

6 (7) "Health care facility" means an office or institution providing care or treatment of
7 diseases, whether physical, mental, emotional, or other medical, physiological or psychological
8 conditions, including, but not limited to, hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals or other clinics,
9 including weight control clinics, nursing homes, homes for the aging or chronically ill,
10 laboratories, and offices of surgeons, chiropractors, physical therapists, physicians, dentists, and
11 all specialists within these professions. This definition shall include all waiting rooms, hallways,
12 private rooms, semi-private rooms and wards within health care facilities.

13 (8) "Place of employment" means an area under the control of a public or private
14 employer that employees normally frequent during the course of employment, including, but not
15 limited to, work areas, employees lounges, restrooms, conference rooms, meeting rooms,
16 classrooms, employee cafeterias, and hallways. Vehicles owned by a public or private employer
17 are covered under this definition provided that the vehicle is used by more than one person. A
18 private residence is not a "place of employment" unless it is used as a child care, adult day care or
19 health care facility.

20 (9) "Public place" means an enclosed area to which the public is invited or in which the
21 public is permitted, including, but not limited to, banks, bars, educational facilities, health care
22 facilities, laundromats, public transportation facilities, reception areas, restaurants, retail food
23 production and marketing establishments, retail service establishments, retail stores, shopping
24 malls, sports arenas, the state house, theaters and waiting rooms. A private residence is not a
25 "public place" unless it is used as a child care, adult day care or health care facility.

26 (10) "Restaurant" means an eating establishment, including, but not limited to, coffee
27 shops, cafeterias, and private and public school cafeterias, which gives or offers for sale food to
28 the public, guests or employees, as well as kitchens and catering facilities in which food is
29 prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere. The term "restaurant" shall include a bar area
30 within the restaurant.

31 (11) "Retail tobacco store" means a retail store utilized primarily for the sale of tobacco
32 products and accessories in which the total annual revenues generated by the sale of other
33 products are no greater than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total revenue for the establishment.
34 The division of taxation shall be responsible for the determination under this section and shall

1 promulgate any rules or forms necessary for the implementation of this section.

2 (12) "Service line" means an indoor line in which one or more persons are waiting for or
3 receiving service of any kind, whether or not the service involves the exchange of money.

4 (13) "Shopping mall" means an enclosed public walkway or hall area that serves to
5 connect retail or professional establishments.

6 (14) "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted cigar,
7 cigarette, pipe, weed, plant, or other combustible substance in any manner or in any form;
8 provided, however, that smoking shall not include burning during a religious ceremony.

9 (15) (a) "Smoking bar" means an establishment whose business is primarily devoted to
10 the serving of tobacco products for consumption on the premises, in which the annual revenues
11 generated by tobacco sales are greater than fifty percent (50%) of the total revenue for the
12 establishment and the serving of food or alcohol is only incidental to the consumption of such
13 tobacco products. The establishment must ~~annually~~ quarterly demonstrate that revenue generated
14 from the serving of tobacco products is greater than the total combined revenue generated by the
15 serving of beverages and food. Every owner of a smoking bar shall register no later than January
16 1 of each year with the division of taxation and shall provide, at a minimum, the owner's name
17 and address and the name and address of the smoking bar. The division of taxation in the
18 department of administration shall be responsible for the determination under this section and
19 shall promulgate any rules or forms necessary for the implementation of this section.

20 (b) Smoking bars shall only allow consumption of food and beverages sold by the
21 establishment on the premises and the establishment shall have public access only from the street.

22 (c) Any smoking bar as defined herein, is required to provide a proper ventilation system
23 which will prevent the migration of smoke into the street.

24 (16) "Sports arena" means sports pavilions, stadiums, (indoor or outdoor) organized
25 sports fields, gymnasiums, health spas, boxing arenas, swimming pools, roller and ice rinks,
26 bowling alleys and other similar places where members of the general public assemble to engage
27 in physical exercise, participate in athletic competition or witness sports or other events.

28 (17) "Legislature" means the general assembly of the state of Rhode Island.

29 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 require smoking bar owners to register with the division of taxation and
2 demonstrate on a quarterly basis that the revenue generated from serving tobacco products
3 exceeds the total combined revenue generated from the sale of food and beverages. The act would
4 also provide that the owner register his or her name and address and the name and address of the
5 smoking bar with the division of taxation.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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