

2015 -- H 6137

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND PORT ADVISORY
COUNCIL

Introduced By: Representatives Almeida, Diaz, Ajello, Carnevale, and Hull

Date Introduced: April 30, 2015

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 46 of the General Laws entitled "WATERS AND NAVIGATION" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 32

4 THE RHODE ISLAND PORT ADVISORY COUNCIL

5 **46-32-1. Short title.** -- This act shall be known and may be cited as the "The Rhode
6 Island Port Advisory Council Act."

7 **46-32-2. Port Advisory Council created.** -- There is hereby created "the Rhode Island
8 port advisory council," which shall be an advisory board within the Rhode Island commerce
9 corporation, having the powers and jurisdiction hereinafter enumerated, and such other and
10 additional powers as shall be conferred upon it by the general assembly.

11 **46-32-3. Purpose.** -- The purpose of this chapter is to create the Rhode Island port
12 advisory council, which shall provide advice and support with respect to coordinating and
13 marketing the commercial maritime resources of all ports in the state both physically and
14 institutionally, thereby creating and enhancing an integrated land/sea transportation network with
15 access to the global market place in support of the economic development needs of the state.

16 **46-32-4. Board created.** -- A board to be known as the Rhode Island port advisory
17 council board is hereby created. The powers of the council shall be vested in and exercised by a
18 majority of the members of the board then in office.

1 **46-32-5. Members.** -- The Rhode Island port advisory council shall consist of eight (8)
2 members, six (6) of whom shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the
3 senate. Two (2) of said appointive members shall be residents of the cities and towns of the
4 seacoast region or state tidal waters that are not represented on the board, one appointive member
5 shall be a commercial fisherman engaged in that industry on the seacoast, and two (2) appointive
6 members shall be experienced in a maritime industry. Each appointed member shall serve for a
7 term of four (4) years. Said members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified
8 members shall be eligible to succeed themselves. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of
9 the appointed members shall be filled by the governor for the unexpired term. In addition to the
10 six (6) appointive members, the director of the Rhode Island commerce corporation, or designee,
11 and the mayor of Providence, or designee, shall be, by virtue of their offices, members of the
12 council. The commissioners shall, for the purpose of doing business, constitute a board and may
13 adopt suitable by-laws for its management.

14 **46-32-6. Compensation of members and agents.** -- The members of the board shall
15 receive no compensation for the performance of their duties, but shall be entitled to
16 reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.
17 No part of the earnings of the authority shall inure to the benefit of any private person.

18 **46-32-7. Business prohibited to members.** -- No member of the board shall directly or
19 indirectly engage in any contract or agreement for labor or for the supply of materials for
20 construction or reconstruction of the physical assets of the authority or replacements or additions
21 thereto.

22 **46-32-8. Powers and duties.** -- The Rhode Island port advisory council shall be vested
23 with the following powers:

24 (1) Advise the Rhode Island commerce corporation and pertinent municipalities on
25 coordination and marketing of the natural and manmade features and conditions of the ports.

26 (2) Seek to coordinate, assist and unify the efforts of state agencies, municipalities,
27 private groups, institutions and individuals within the ports in accord with the purposes of this
28 chapter.

29 (3) Prepare, print and distribute books, maps, and pamphlets or other materials necessary
30 to promote and market the ports in accord with the purposes of this chapter.

31 **46-32-9. Funding.** -- The general assembly shall appropriate two hundred and fifty
32 thousand dollars (\$250,000) annually for the office and other administrative expenses, and such
33 sum or sums as shall be recommended by the port advisory council and approved by the general
34 assembly.

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 WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND PORT ADVISORY
COUNCIL

1 This act would create the Rhode Island Port Advisory Council to provide advice and
2 support with respect to coordinating and marketing the commercial maritime resources of all
3 ports in the state.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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