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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 TOWNS AND CITIES - RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE  
FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

Introduced By: Senator Stephen R. Archambault

Date Introduced: March 05, 2015

Referred To: Senate Labor

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-19-4.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-19 entitled "Relief of  
2 Injured and Deceased Fire Fighters and Police Officers" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-19-4.1. Tuition to children of police officers dying or disabled as a result of**  
4 **service.** -- (a) If an active member of the police force of a city or town is killed, dies, or becomes  
5 totally and permanently disabled from injuries received while in the performance of his or her  
6 duty as a member, or dies of a heart condition or any condition derived from hypertension while  
7 still a member, there shall be paid out of the general fund of the state of Rhode Island the charges  
8 for the tuition of children of the deceased or totally and permanently disabled police officer  
9 and/or the spouse of a police officer killed in the line of duty. The benefits are extended to the  
10 children and/or spouse who are attending or may attend the University of Rhode Island, Rhode  
11 Island College, or any other college or university operated by the state; provided, that the child  
12 has entered the institution while between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-one (21); and  
13 provided, further, that the aid granted is available to the child and/or spouse for the period of time  
14 that may equal the normal time for completing the courses regularly offered by the institution, but  
15 in no case more than four (4) years.

16 (b) For the purpose of this section, the words "police officer" mean and include any  
17 member of the state police, any correctional officer within the department of corrections, or the  
18 police of any city or town regularly employed at a fixed salary or wage. Furthermore, this

1 excludes auxiliary and volunteer police officers of city, town, or state police. For the purpose of  
2 this section, the words "totally and permanently disabled" mean any impairment of mind or body  
3 making it ~~impossible for one to follow continuously a gainful occupation~~ no longer possible for  
4 one to perform his or her duties as a police officer.

5 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 TOWNS AND CITIES - RELIEF OF INJURED AND DECEASED FIRE  
FIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

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- 1           This act would redefine the method by which a police officer will be considered "totally
- 2           and permanently disabled" under this section.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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