

2016 -- S 2380

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT- RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION
ON WOMEN

Introduced By: Senator Elaine J. Morgan

Date Introduced: February 10, 2016

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The title of Chapter 42-119 of the General Laws entitled "Rhode Island
2 Commission on Women" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~CHAPTER 42-119~~

4 ~~Rhode Island Commission on Women~~

5 CHAPTER 42-119

6 RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

7 SECTION 2. Sections 42-119-1, 42-119-2, 42-119-3 and 42-119-7 of the General Laws
8 in Chapter 42-119 entitled "Rhode Island Commission on Women" are hereby amended to read as
9 follows:

10 42-119-1. Creation. -- There is created a Rhode Island ~~Commission on Women~~
11 Commission on Women and Girls, which shall consist of twenty-six (26) members. Members
12 shall be representative of the general public reflecting a broad spectrum of women from all
13 socioeconomic, multi-cultural, and demographic segments as well as various departments of state
14 government consistent with the purpose of this chapter. Members shall serve staggered terms of
15 three (3) years.

16 42-119-2. Purpose. -- The purpose of the commission is to advance women and girls
17 toward full equity in all areas of life and to promote rights and opportunities for all women. The
18 commission shall study, make recommendations, and promote constructive action on issues

1 related to women which include, but are not limited to, the following: economic development,
2 education, employment, health, legal rights, political participation, and the quality of individual
3 and family life.

4 **42-119-3. Areas of responsibility.** -- The commission has the following responsibilities:

5 (1) Advise and submit recommendations to the governor and the general assembly on
6 issues relating to women;

7 (2) Gather and disseminate information to women and/or the general public on issues
8 relating to women;

9 (3) Develop and/or support programs and services for women consistent with the
10 purpose of the commission;

11 ~~(5)~~(4) Collaborate and/or partner with concerned organizations, groups, and state
12 departments on issues of common concern;

13 (5) Educate and encourage women to exercise the right to vote; encourage candidacy for
14 public office and promote appointment of qualified women to boards, commissions, and
15 government positions at all levels;

16 (6) Evaluate, monitor and propose federal and state legislation and advise legislators on
17 issues relating to women; and

18 (7) Advocate for women's equity in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

19 **42-119-7. Grants and gifts.** -- The commission is empowered to apply for and receive
20 from any federal, state, or local agency, private foundation or from any individual, any grants,
21 appropriations, or gifts, which shall be deposited as ~~general~~ restricted revenues. Appropriations
22 shall be utilized in order to carry out the purpose of this commission.

23 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT- RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION
ON WOMEN

1 This act would rename the Rhode Island Commission on Women as the Rhode Island
2 Commission on Women and Girls, allow it to partner with other groups, organizations and state
3 departments on issues of common concern and designate any grants, appropriations or gifts
4 received as restricted revenues.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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