

2016 -- S 2417

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LC003907
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

A N A C T

RELATING TO THE COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT AND THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, and Kettle

Date Introduced: February 11, 2016

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 806 of the 1889 Public Laws entitled "An Act To
2 Incorporate the Coventry Fire District," as subsequently amended, is hereby further amended to
3 read as follows:

4 Sec. 2. The inhabitants of said district qualified to vote in town affairs, on propositions to
5 impose taxes, or for the expenditure of money, shall be eligible to vote and act in all meetings of
6 the corporation; provided, that no vote shall have effect unless at the time of the vote not less than
7 two percent (2%) of those eligible to vote shall be present and voting.

8 SECTION 2. Section 3 of Chapter 405 of the Public Laws, 2006 ENTITLED "AN ACT
9 IN AMENDMENT OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE
10 DISTRICT IN FURTHERANCE OF THE "CONSOLIDATION PLAN" OF THE CENTRAL
11 COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT, THE WASHINGTON LIGHTING DISTRICT, THE HARRIS
12 FIRE AND LIGHTING DISTRICT AND THE TIOGUE FIRE DISTRICT, AS APPROVED BY
13 THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF SAID DISTRICTS, AT DULY CALLED MEETINGS HELD
14 ON MARCH 28, 2006", as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 208 of the Public Laws, 2012,
15 entitled "AN ACT RELATING TO THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT", is hereby
16 further amended to read as follows:

17 Sec. 3. FIRST CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT MEETING AND ANNUAL MEETINGS
18 OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT.

1 (a) 2006 - First consolidated meeting: Commencing in the year 2006, a special meeting of
2 the consolidated district shall be held within thirty (30) days of the amendment of this Charter by
3 and among the Boards of Directors of Central Coventry Fire District, the Washington Lighting
4 District, the Harris Fire & Lighting District and the Tiogue Fire District for the purposes of
5 constituting the first Board of Directors of the consolidated district, in accordance with Section 5
6 herein and for adopting the initial by-laws for the Consolidated District.

7 (b) Annual Meetings and Quorum: Annual meetings of said fire district for the election of
8 officers and the transaction of any other business of the fire district shall be held. ~~Twenty-five~~
9 ~~(25) qualified voters shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of~~
10 ~~the corporation.~~ Commencing in 2007 and continuing annually thereafter, the district shall hold
11 an annual meeting in a public place on the first Monday in October, at 7:00 P.M. at such place
12 within the District as the Board shall determine, for the purposes of:

- 13 (1) electing a Board of Directors;
- 14 (2) authoring the assessment of all the taxable personal and real property of the District;
- 15 (3) authorizing the collection of taxes, as further set forth in Section 6 hereunder;
- 16 (4) authorizing an annual budget to provide for the purchase and maintenance of
17 equipment, apparatus, real and personal property, the payment of wages and salaries, and for such
18 other expenditures deemed necessary by the qualified voters of the District; and
- 19 (5) For such other lawful purposes deemed necessary and proper by either the Board of
20 Directors or qualified voters of the district.

21 At any meeting of the corporation, no vote shall have effect unless at the time of the vote
22 not less than two percent (2%) of those eligible to vote shall be present and voting.

23 (c) Call of the Meeting: The Clerk of the District shall give notice of the annual meetings
24 by causing a copy thereof to be posted at least twice in some newspaper distributed in Kent
25 County, and posted in each fire station of the District not less than sixty (60) days prior to the
26 meeting date. The annual meeting and all other meetings of the District shall be held in a public
27 place, which shall be accessible to the handicapped, pursuant to the requirements of the Rhode
28 Island Constitution, Article 1 and 2 and applicable federal and state non-discrimination laws.

29 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 THE COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT AND THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE
DISTRICT

1 This act would amend the charters of the Coventry Fire District and the Central Coventry
2 Fire District to provide that no vote at a meeting of either district would have effect unless at the
3 time of the vote not less than two percent (2%) of those eligible to vote are present and voting.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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