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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND AGING  
AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Barros, Morin, Blazejewski, and Donovan

Date Introduced: January 26, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND  
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 66.12

4 THE RHODE ISLAND AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

5 **42-66.12-1. Short title.**

6 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "The Rhode Island Aging and  
7 Disability Resource Center Act".

8 **42-66.12-2. Purpose.**

9 To assist Rhode Islanders and their families in making informed choices and decisions  
10 about long-term service and support options and to streamline access to long-term supports and  
11 services for older adults, persons with disabilities, family caregivers and providers, a statewide  
12 aging and disability resource center shall be maintained. The Rhode Island aging and disability  
13 resource center (ADRC) is a collaborative federal and state multi-agency effort led by the U.S.  
14 Administration on Aging (AoA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). It consists of  
15 a centrally operated, coordinated system of information, referral and options counseling for all  
16 persons seeking long-term supports and services in order to enhance individual choice, foster  
17 informed decision-making and minimize confusion and duplication.

18 **42-66.12-3. Aging and disability resource center established.**

1           The Rhode Island aging and disability resource center (ADRC) shall be established and  
2 operated by the department of human services, division of elderly affairs (DEA) in collaboration  
3 with other agencies within the executive office of health and human services. The division of  
4 elderly affairs shall build on its experience in development and implementation of the current  
5 ADRC program. The ADRC is an integral part of the Rhode Island system of long-term supports  
6 and services working to promote the state's long-term system rebalancing goals by diverting  
7 persons, when appropriate, from institutional care to home and community-based services and  
8 preventing short-term institutional stays from becoming permanent through options counseling  
9 and screening for eligibility for home and community-based services.

10           **42-66.12-4. Aging and disability resource center service directives.**

11           (a) The aging and disability resource center (ADRC) shall provide for the following:

12           (1) A statewide toll-free ADRC information number available during business hours with  
13 a messaging system to respond to after-hours calls during the next business day and language  
14 services to assist individuals with limited English language skills;

15           (2) A comprehensive database of information, updated on a regular basis and accessible  
16 through a dedicated website, on the full range of available public and private long-term support  
17 and service programs, service providers and resources within the state and in specific  
18 communities, including information on housing supports, transportation and the availability of  
19 integrated long-term care;

20           (3) Personal options counseling, including implementing provisions required in §40-8.9-  
21 9, to assist individuals in assessing their existing or anticipated long-term care needs, and  
22 assisting them to develop and implement a plan designed to meet their specific needs and  
23 circumstances;

24           (4) A means to link callers to the ADRC information line to interactive long-term care  
25 screening tools and to make these tools available through the ADRC website by integrating the  
26 tools into the website;

27           (5) Development of partnerships, through memorandum agreements or other  
28 arrangements, with other entities serving older adults and persons with disabilities, including  
29 those working on nursing home transition and hospital discharge programs, to assist in  
30 maintaining and providing ADRC services; and

31           (6) Community education and outreach activities to inform persons about the ADRC  
32 services, in finding information through the Internet and in planning for future long-term care  
33 needs including housing and community service options.

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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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND AGING  
AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

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1           This act would establish within the department of human services, division of elderly  
2   affairs (DEA), the Rhode Island aging and disability resource center (ADRC) as part of the Rhode  
3   Island system of long-term care for older adults, persons with disabilities, family caregivers and  
4   providers.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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