

2017 -- H 5621

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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 BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - SOLICITATION BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Casey, Hull, Morin, McNamara, and Azzinaro

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-53.1-12.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-53.1 entitled
2 "Solicitation by Charitable Organizations" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-53.1-12.1. Solicitation -- Requirements.**

4 Prior to orally requesting a contribution, or contemporaneously with a written request for
5 a contribution, regardless of how the request is made, the following shall be clearly and
6 conspicuously disclosed:

7 (a) The name of the professional solicitor and professional fund-raiser, the name of the
8 entity that employed or otherwise engaged the professional solicitor or professional fund-raiser,
9 and the fact that the solicitation is being conducted by a professional solicitor: and

10 (b) ~~If requested by the prospective donor, the~~ The percentage of the contribution to be
11 retained by the professional fund-raiser or the company that employed or otherwise engaged the
12 professional fund-raiser.

13 (c) Any solicitation that is subject to this section, regardless of how the solicitation is
14 made, shall include the following statement:

15 "My name is [insert full name] and I am an employee of [insert name of fundraising
16 company]. I am a paid representative soliciting charitable contributions on behalf of [insert name
17 of charitable organization]. I am required by Rhode Island law to inform you that [insert name of
18 fundraising company] receives no less than [insert percentage] percent of aggregate contributions

1 [in payment for its fundraising services.](#)

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would require professional solicitors and professional fund-raisers to disclose the
2 name of their employer and the percentage of the contribution solicited by the fundraiser that will
3 be retained by the fundraising company. This act also would require that a specific statement be
4 made with all solicitations.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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