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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 ELECTIONS - PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Introduced By: Senator Erin P. Lynch Prata

Date Introduced: April 25, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Board of Elections)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-15-14 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-15 entitled "Primary
2 Elections" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-15-14. Qualifications of primary officials -- Affidavit.**

4 (a) Each warden or moderator and each primary supervisor appointed under the
5 provisions of §§ 17-15-13 and 17-15-16 shall be able to read the Constitution of the state in the
6 English language, and to write his or her name, and shall, whenever possible, be a voter of the
7 senatorial district, representative district, or town, ward, or voting district from which he or she is
8 appointed.

9 (b) No person shall be appointed to serve as a primary official who has been convicted,
10 found guilty, pleaded guilty or nolo contendere, or placed on a deferred or suspended sentence or
11 on probation for any crime which involved moral turpitude or a violation of any of the election,
12 caucus, or primary laws of this or any other state.

13 (c) ~~No person shall be appointed to serve as a primary official who is an officer or~~
14 ~~employee of the United States, of this state, or of any city or town of this state, but no person~~
15 ~~shall be disqualified solely because that person is a notary public or a teacher.~~

16 (d) No person who is seeking nomination or election at any primary election shall act as a
17 primary official at that primary.

18 (e) Every primary official shall make an affidavit before the proper local board or some
19 member of the board to the effect that that official is not disqualified by reason of the provisions

1 of this section.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO ELECTIONS - PRIMARY ELECTIONS

- 1 This act would allow a person appointed as a primary official to be an employee of the
- 2 United States, of this state, or of any city or town of this state.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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