

2018 -- H 7508

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LC004519
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Corvese, Newberry, Shekarchi, and Keable

Date Introduced: February 08, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-23-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-23 entitled "Election
2 Offenses" is hereby repealed.

3 ~~17-23-2. Signature of posters, fliers, and circulars.~~

4 ~~No person shall intentionally write, print, post, or distribute, or cause to be written,
5 printed, posted, or distributed, a circular, flier, or poster designed or tending to injure or defeat
6 any candidate for nomination or election to any public office, by criticizing the candidate's
7 personal character or political action, or designed or tending to aid, injure, or defeat any question
8 submitted to the voters, unless there appears upon the circular, flier, or poster in a conspicuous
9 place the name of the author and either the names of the chairperson and secretary, or of two (2)
10 officers, of the political or other organization issuing the poster, flier, or circular, or of some voter
11 who is responsible for it, with the voter's name and residence, and the street and numbers, if any.~~

12 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

1 This act would eliminate the election offense for posting political circulars that criticize a
2 candidate.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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