

2018 -- H 7652

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LC004638  
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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 CRIMINAL OFFENSES - CHILDREN

Introduced By: Representatives Ackerman, Shekarchi, McEntee, McKiernan, and  
Jacquard

Date Introduced: February 15, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

(Attorney General)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-9-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-9 entitled "Children" is  
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-9-9. Powers of family court.**

4 Where in §§ 11-9-1 -- 11-9-8 any authority is vested in any court, the authority vested in  
5 the court or courts mentioned is transferred to the family court. The family court shall have  
6 exclusive original jurisdiction over any and all complaints and offenses set forth in §§ ~~11-9-1~~  
7 [11-9-2](#), [11-9-4](#), 11-9-8, 11-9-12, 11-9-14, and 11-9-15, and shall have the authority to impose  
8 sentence as set forth in chapter 1 of title 14. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section,  
9 jurisdiction for violations of §§ 11-9-1, 11-9-1.1, 11-9-1.2, 11-9-1.3, 11-9-1.5, [11-9-5](#), and 11-9-  
10 5.3 shall be vested in the superior court.

11 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 transfer jurisdiction of the offenses in § 11-9-5 of the general laws  
2 ("cruelty to or neglect of child") from the Rhode Island Family Court to the Rhode Island  
3 Superior Court.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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