

2019 -- H 5672

LC001962

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- THE PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, Shekarchi, Shanley, Solomon, and Bennett

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 1-7-5, 1-7-6, and 1-7-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 1-7 entitled  
2 "The Permanent Air Quality Monitoring Act" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **1-7-5. Health study.**

4 (a) The corporation shall provide the department of health with funding in an amount not  
5 to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), half to be paid in fiscal year 2008 and the  
6 other half to be paid in fiscal year 2009, which funds the department of health will use for an  
7 independent health study developed in consultation with the department of environmental  
8 management and the air quality monitoring public advisory committee. The purpose of the study  
9 will be to determine whether and to what extent, air pollution generated by airport activities  
10 affects the health of area residents based, to the extent feasible, on established health benchmarks.

11 (b) The study shall use the data collected from the first year of long-term, air-quality  
12 monitoring at the airport described in the previous sections to evaluate potential public health  
13 implications of emissions based, to the extent feasible, on established health benchmarks, and  
14 shall be completed and submitted to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and  
15 the president of the senate no later than May 30, 2009.

16 (c) The corporation, the department of health, and the city of Warwick shall publish the  
17 study on their respective websites no later than July 31, 2019, and shall maintain the study on  
18 their respective websites thereafter.

19 **1-7-6. Reporting.**

1 (a) The corporation shall provide the department of environmental management with an  
2 inventory of greenhouse gas pollutants, including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide and methane,  
3 and an annual inventory of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide. The inventories  
4 of data generated in the prior calendar year shall be reported to the department of environmental  
5 management on or before March 30, 2009, and every March 30 thereafter.

6 (b) Data generated from the permanent air-quality monitors shall be reported to the  
7 department of environmental management, ~~and~~ the department of health, and to the city of  
8 Warwick on at least a quarterly basis and shall be used by the departments to continuously  
9 augment and update air-quality-monitoring studies conducted by the departments. The  
10 department of environmental management, the department of health, and the city of Warwick  
11 shall publish the data on their respective websites within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the  
12 data.

13 (c) The department of health shall prepare an annual report that shall contain the  
14 department's findings, analysis, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the data  
15 generated by and from the permanent air-quality monitors (the "monitors"), as well as a summary  
16 of the data collected from the monitors. The first such report shall be due on or before July 31,  
17 2017, and on or before July 31 in 2018, 2019, and for any further year thereafter during which  
18 data is collected and reported pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Copies  
19 of these reports shall be provided by the required dates to the speaker of the house, the president  
20 of the senate, the office of the governor, the office of the attorney general, the airport corporation,  
21 and the offices of the mayor and the city council of the city of Warwick. The department of  
22 health, the airport corporation, and the city of Warwick shall publish these reports on their  
23 respective websites within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the reports.

24 **1-7-9. ~~Sunset provisions~~ Monitoring actions required and compliance -- Sunset**  
25 **provision.**

26 (a) On or before January 31, 2017, and on or before January 31, 2018, and January 31,  
27 2019, thereafter, the department of environmental management, the department of health, and the  
28 attorney general shall submit to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the  
29 senate, recommendations as to the continuation of the air monitoring required in this act, ~~and,~~  
30 ~~unless~~

31 (b) Unless extended by the general assembly, the corporation's obligation to operate and  
32 maintain the air monitoring system will cease on July 31, ~~2019.~~ 2021; provided that, this sunset  
33 date shall be dependent upon the corporation undertaking and completing the following actions  
34 prior to July 31, 2021:

1           (1) As part of the long-term air quality monitoring program, ambient air-quality monitors  
2 shall be set up in a network that shall include at least four (4) monitoring sites in the area of and  
3 surrounding Green International Airport. These monitors shall be designed, placed, and  
4 maintained so as to measure air-quality impacts from airport operations, including those impacts  
5 associated with planes operating on the extended runway and on neighborhoods adjacent to the  
6 airport facility, and at the Winslow Park playing fields. The corporation shall compile at least  
7 twenty (20) months of complete air quality monitoring data from these monitors and submit that  
8 data to the department of health prior to May 1, 2021, pursuant to § 1-7-6; and

9           (2) The corporation shall comply with all other reporting and publishing requirements set  
10 forth in this chapter.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
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1           This act would extend the required air quality monitoring program at Green International  
2   Airport for two (2) years to July 31, 2021. The act would also provide the sunset provision for the  
3   air quality monitoring program would be dependent upon the airport corporation undertaking  
4   certain specific actions regarding the collection and reporting of air quality data from monitors set  
5   up around the airport.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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