LC005109

2020 -- H 7707

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

Introduced By: Representatives Blazejewski, Williams, Donovan, Ackerman, and O'Brien Date Introduced: February 26, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

(General Treasurer)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 12-25-30.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-25 entitled "Criminal
- 2 Injuries Compensation" is hereby amended to read as follows:
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<u>12-25-30.1.</u> Disclosure of records as to claims; confidentiality.

- 4 (a) All applications, notices of award or denial, medical records, mental health counseling 5 records, employment information, personal financial information and investigative records received, obtained or maintained by the administrator in connection with any application for 6 7 compensation, and identities of individuals approved or denied of compensation shall be maintained as confidential investigative material and shall not be released or disclosed to any 8 9 person or entity whatsoever, except as authorized by the applicant, by representatives of the 10 applicant, by any individual rendering assistance to the office in the administration of this chapter, 11 by law enforcement for the discharge of their official duties, by state government auditors or federal 12 auditors when necessary to investigate the compliance of the administration of the program with 13 applicable state and federal laws, or as otherwise required for judicial proceedings or provided by 14 law. The application and the notice of award or denial shall be deemed public records. 15 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to prohibit the administrator
- 16 from issuing any statistical material or data, or publishing or causing the data to be published.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

1 This act would amend the disclosure of records process relating to criminal injuries 2 compensation by permitting the disclosure of the records if the release is authorized by 3 representatives of the applicant, or is disclosed to other authorized governmental officials.

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This act would take effect upon passage.

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