

2020 -- S 2252

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LC003794  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Euer, Murray, Pearson, and Quezada

Date Introduced: February 04, 2020

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-24-54 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-24 entitled "Zoning  
2 Ordinances" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-24-54. Administration -- Administration and enforcement of zoning ordinance.**

4 A zoning ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter must provide for the administration  
5 and enforcement of its provisions pursuant to this chapter. The zoning ordinance must designate  
6 the local official or agency and specify minimum qualifications for the person or persons charged  
7 with its administration and enforcement, including: (1) the issuing of any required permits or  
8 certificates; (2) collection of required fees; (3) keeping of records showing the compliance of uses  
9 of land; (4) authorizing commencement of uses or development under the provisions of the  
10 zoning ordinance; (5) inspection of suspected violations; (6) issuance of violation notices with  
11 required correction action; (7) collection of fines for violations; and (8) performing any other  
12 duties and taking any actions that may be assigned in the ordinance. In order to provide guidance  
13 or clarification, the zoning enforcement officer or agency shall, upon written request from an  
14 applicant, issue or deny a zoning certificate or provide a written determination regarding the  
15 proposed use ~~information to the requesting party as to the determination~~ by the official or agency  
16 within fifteen (15) days of the written request. In the event that no written response is provided  
17 within that time, the requesting party has the right to appeal to the zoning board of review for the  
18 determination. Any aggrieved party may appeal the decision regarding the zoning certificate or  
19 written determination regarding the proposed use to the zoning board of review pursuant to § 45-

1 [24-57\(1\)\(i\)](#).

2 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 require that upon a written request from an applicant, a zoning  
2 enforcement officer would provide a written determination regarding the proposed use. This act  
3 would allow an aggrieved party to appeal the decision regarding zoning or written determination  
4 to the zoning board of review.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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