

2025 -- H 5959

=====
LC002114
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PUBLIC AUCTIONS BY ELECTRONIC OR REMOTE
PROCEDURES

Introduced By: Representatives Lima, and Cruz

Date Introduced: February 28, 2025

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 34 of the General Laws entitled "PROPERTY" is hereby amended by
2 adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 50

4 PUBLIC AUCTIONS BY ELECTRONIC OR REMOTE PROCEDURES

5 **34-50-1. Public auctions of real estate.**

6 (a) Public auctions by any city or town of real estate or an interest therein for any reason
7 or purpose tax sales shall only be done in person at the time and place specified in the legal
8 advertisement, and in accordance with Rhode Island statutes that govern said sales.

9 (b) No public auction of real estate or an interest therein shall be done by electronic or
10 remote procedures unless authorized by court order of the Rhode Island superior court after a
11 hearing thereon and a finding that an in-person auction is not feasible under the circumstances of
12 the specific case.

13 (c) The purpose of this section is to bring greater public scrutiny to the public auction sales
14 of real estate in Rhode Island.

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

=====
LC002114
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO PROPERTY -- PUBLIC AUCTIONS BY ELECTRONIC OR REMOTE
PROCEDURES

1 This act would require public auctions by any city or town of real estate or an interest
2 therein to only be done in person and not by electronic or remote procedures unless authorized by
3 court order.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC002114
=====