

**2026 -- H 7193**

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**S T A T E   O F   R H O D E   I S L A N D**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026**

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**A N   A C T**

**RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- POLICE OFFICERS -  
COMMISSION ON STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

Introduced By: Representatives J. Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Potter, Cruz, and Stewart

Date Introduced: January 21, 2026

Referred To: House Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1        SECTION 1. Chapter 42-28.2 of the General Laws entitled "Police Officers —  
2        Commission on Standards and Training" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following  
3        section:

4        **42-28.2-8.6. Educational requirements -- Development disability recognition training.**  
5        The commission on standards and training shall prepare and publish mandatory training  
6        standards to provide instruction for police officers in identifying, responding to, handling,  
7        investigating and reporting all incidents involving any person with a "developmental disability" as  
8        defined in § 40.1-1-8.1. The commission shall include this training in all curricula for recruits and  
9        in-service trainees, and in all police academies operated or certified by the commission.

10       SECTION 2. Section 40.1-1-8.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 40.1-1 entitled  
11       "Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals" is hereby  
12       amended to read as follows:

13       **40.1-1-8.1. "Developmental disability" defined.**

14       The term "developmental disability" means a severe, chronic disability of a person that:

15       (1) Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical  
16       impairments;

17       (2) Is manifested ~~before the person attains age twenty-two (22) at any age;~~

18       (3) Is likely to continue indefinitely;

13 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- POLICE OFFICERS -  
COMMISSION ON STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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- 1        This act would require mandatory training standards for police officers and trainees, in
- 2        identifying, responding, and handling all incidents involving any person with a developmental
- 3        disability. This act would also amend the definition of development disability to include a mental
- 4        or physical impairment manifested at any age.
- 5        This act would take effect upon passage.

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