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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Introduced By: Representatives Place, Hopkins, Santucci, and Chippendale

Date Introduced: January 28, 2026

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-24 of the General Laws entitled "Zoning Ordinances" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-24-37.1. Home-based businesses.**

4 Notwithstanding any zoning or other municipal ordinance to the contrary, any individual
5 operating a home-based business which meets the criteria provided by the Internal Revenue Code
6 for a home office tax deduction, may operate without securing any approvals from their
7 municipality; provided, that the home-based business does not store chemicals, other hazardous
8 materials, or park heavy equipment on the premises, and not more than ten percent (10%) of the
9 premises are used for parking in connection with the operation of the home-based business.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

- 1 This act would allow the operation of a home-based business, as long as it meets the criteria
2 for a home office IRS income tax deduction, without securing any approvals from the municipality.
3 The business may not store chemicals or other hazardous materials, may not park heavy equipment
4 and not more than ten percent (10%) of the premises is used for parking, notwithstanding any
5 contrary zoning law or ordinance.
6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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