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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- INDICTMENTS, INFORMATION AND COMPLAINTS

Introduced By: Representatives Place, and J. Lombardi

Date Introduced: January 30, 2026

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1           SECTION 1. Chapter 12-12 of the General Laws entitled "Indictments, Informations and
- 2   Complaints" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:
- 3           **12-12-23. Acquittal in another jurisdiction as bar to prosecution.**
- 4           If a violation of any criminal law is a violation of a federal law or the law of another state,
- 5   an acquittal under federal law or the law of another state for the same set of facts or acts shall be a
- 6   bar to prosecution in this state, unless there exists newly discovered evidence which would
- 7   substantially indicate that prosecution in this state is warranted.
- 8           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 prohibit prosecutions for violations of criminal laws in this state if the  
2 violation arises from the same set of facts or acts for which a defendant has been acquitted in federal  
3 court or another jurisdiction, unless there exists newly discovered evidence substantially warranting  
4 prosecution in this state.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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