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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- ARREST

Introduced By: Senators Dimitri, LaMountain, Raptakis, Famiglietti, Appollonio,
Thompson, de la Cruz, Paolino, and Rogers
Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-7-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-7 entitled "Arrest" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **12-7-10. ~~Resisting legal or illegal arrest~~ Resisting legal or illegal arrest by peace**
4 **officer-Resisting directive of correctional officer.**

5 (a)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to use force or any weapon in resisting a legal or
6 an illegal arrest by a peace officer, if the person has reasonable ground to believe that he or she is
7 being arrested and that the arrest is being made by a peace officer.

8 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person in custody of the Rhode Island department of
9 corrections to use any force or weapon to resist a lawful request or directive by a corrections officer.

10 (3) For purposes of this section, a "lawful request or directive" means an order issued within
11 the scope of a correctional officer's official duties and consistent with state law and department
12 regulations.

13 (b) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not
14 more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both
15 fine and imprisonment.

16 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 make it unlawful for a person in the custody of the department of corrections
- 2 to use any force or weapon to resist a lawful request or directive.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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