2013 -- H 5390

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. 2013

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A N   A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS - COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

Introduced By: Representatives Slater, DeSimone, Diaz, and Carnevale

Date Introduced: February 12, 2013

Referred To: House Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1   SECTION 1. Chapter 40.1-24.5 of the General Laws entitled "Community Residences" is

2   hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3   **40.1-24.5-20. Private providers direct care pay equity. –** Commencing on July 1, 2015,

4   notwithstanding any provision of the general or public laws, or rule or regulation to the contrary,

5   private providers operating community residences for developmentally disabled clients must pay

6   their direct care employees wages equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the first step hourly

7   wages paid to Rhode Island community living and supports community living aides. In addition,

8   health care benefits shall be equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the value of those received by

9   living aides.

10   The department of behavioral health care, developmental disabilities and hospitals shall

11   conduct an annual survey to report the annual hourly wage, educational requirements, and in-

12   service training provided to private providers' direct care staff. This report shall be a public

13   record and shall be provided to the members of the house and senate finance committees by July

14   1, 2015, and annually thereafter.

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

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

A N   A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE,
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS - COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

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1   This act would set a minimum wage and benefits scale for employees of private providers

2   operating community residences, commencing July 1, 2015.

3   This act would take effect upon passage.