2017 -- H 5721



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINALS - CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Ajello, and Regunberg

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 13-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 13-6 entitled "Loss of

2 Rights by Prisoners" is hereby repealed.

13-6-1. Life prisoners deemed civilly dead.

4 Every person imprisoned in the adult correctional institutions for life shall, with respect

to all rights of property, to the bond of matrimony and to all civil rights and relations of any

6 nature whatsoever, be deemed to be dead in all respects, as if his or her natural death had taken

7 place at the time of conviction. However, the bond of matrimony shall not be dissolved, nor shall

8 the rights to property or other rights of the husband or wife of the imprisoned person be

terminated or impaired, except on the entry of a lawfully obtained decree for divorce.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINALS - CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

This act would repeal the provision declaring prisoners serving a life sentence civilly dead.

This act would take effect upon passage.

LC001599