

**2021 -- H 6237 SUBSTITUTE A**

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LC002379/SUB A  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021**

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A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- SMALL CLAIMS AND CONSUMER  
CLAIMS -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Knight, Kislak, Newberry, Batista, Felix, and McEntee

Date Introduced: April 14, 2021

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 10-16-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 10-16 entitled "Small Claims  
2 and Consumer Claims" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **10-16-1. Actions subject to chapter.**

4           In all ex contractu civil actions and in any action to recover the amount of any tax for  
5 money only not in excess of ~~two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500)~~ five thousand dollars  
6 (\$5,000) exclusive of interest and costs, and in all actions or suits to recover damages resulting  
7 from a retail sale of tangible personal property to a member of the general public or from services  
8 rendered to a member of the general public in which the plaintiff seeks to recover an amount of  
9 money only not in excess of ~~two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500)~~ five thousand dollars  
10 (\$5,000) exclusive of interest and costs, and in all actions or suits based upon a negotiable  
11 instrument involving an amount of money only not in excess of ~~two thousand five hundred dollars~~  
12 ~~(\$2,500)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000) exclusive of interest and costs, the procedure shall, at the  
13 plaintiff's election, shown by his or her waiver of appeal, be as provided by this chapter.

14           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 COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE -- SMALL CLAIMS AND CONSUMER  
CLAIMS -- PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR ACTIONS

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- 1           This act would increase the maximum amount to be recovered in civil court action as a
- 2 small claims from two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to five thousand dollars (\$5,000).
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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