

2010 -- H 7458

LC01385

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS - LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES

Introduced By: Representatives E Coderre, Kilmartin, Messier, and JP O'Neill

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-8-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-8 entitled "Local  
2 Canvassing Authorities" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-8-10. Publication of local questions to be submitted to voters.** -- (a) Prior to each  
4 local election at which public questions are to be submitted, the local board shall cause to be  
5 prominently posted in at least three (3) local public locations and advertised at least once in a  
6 newspaper of local circulation or in lieu of the requirement to place the advertisement in a  
7 newspaper of local circulation, the city of Pawtucket may mail to the household of each registered  
8 voter prior to the election the full text of each legislative act to be acted upon and the election  
9 date, or the local board may substitute a description of the text of each act in lieu of the full text,  
10 together with the following information:

11 (1) The designated number of the question;

12 (2) A brief caption of the question;

13 (3) A brief explanation of the measure that is the subject matter of the question; and

14 (4) A notice that voter fraud is a felony and the penalty for voter fraud. This notice shall  
15 be in conspicuous lettering and shall contain the following language: "You must be registered to  
16 vote from your actual place of residence."

17 (b) If the public question involves the issuance of bonds or other evidence of  
18 indebtedness or any other long-term financial obligation such as a lease, the notice required by  
19 subsection (a) of this section shall also include at least the following information to be provided:

1           (1) The estimated total cost of the project or program, including financing (using a  
2 reasonable assumed rate of interest), legal, and other costs.

3           (2) The estimated useful life of the project, and the term of the bonds, other  
4 indebtedness, or other obligation.

5           (3) A reasonably detailed description of the project or program, its purposes, and a  
6 project timetable.

7           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 permit the city of Pawtucket to mail local questions to registered voters in
- 2   lieu of the requirement to place an advertisement in a newspaper of local circulation.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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