LC005163

## 2024 -- H 7643

# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

#### AN ACT

# RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDER ABUSER REGISTRY -- HOLLY'S LAW

Introduced By: Representatives Noret, J. Brien, Casimiro, Azzinaro, Kazarian, Shanley, and Shallcross Smith Date Introduced: February 15, 2024

<u>Referred To:</u> House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Title 40.1 of the General Laws entitled "BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE,
- 2 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS" is hereby amended by adding thereto
- 3 the following chapter:
- 4 CHAPTER 30 5 HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDER ABUSER REGISTRY 40.1-30-1. Short title. 6 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as "Holly's Law." 7 8 40.1-30-2. Behavioral healthcare service provider abuser registry. 9 (a) The director shall establish and maintain a registry of employees found in violation of or disciplined for any felony offense, any misdemeanor crime of dishonesty or offense involving 10 11 the use of any illegal substance. 12 (1) The registry shall include, but not be limited to: 13 (i) Name; 14 (ii) Last place of employment; 15 (iii) License number if applicable; and 16 (iv) Date of offense.
- 17 (b) The registry shall be a publicly accessible online database managed by the department.
- 18 (c) The registry shall be maintained and updated regularly by the department to properly

- 1 reflect the current status of any employee subject to a disciplinary review for an alleged infraction
- 2 of § 40.1-22-27 or found to be in violation of any felony offense, any misdemeanor crime of
- 3 dishonesty or offense involving the use of any illegal substance.
- 4 (d) If a disciplinary review of the employee yields no disciplinary action, or a conviction
- 5 under subsection (a) of this section which has been expunged, the employee's record shall be
- 6 <u>removed from the registry.</u>
- 7 (e) The director, or designee, upon request of any other licensed healthcare facility, may
- 8 provide any or all information available regarding circumstances under which the employee was
- 9 <u>disciplined or released.</u>
- 10 (f) The director shall promulgate guidelines and procedures to implement the provisions of
- 11 <u>this section.</u>
- 12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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#### **EXPLANATION**

#### BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

### OF

### AN ACT

# RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDER ABUSER REGISTRY -- HOLLY'S LAW

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1 This act would require the director of the department of behavioral healthcare, 2 developmental disabilities and hospitals (BHDDH) to establish and maintain a registry of 3 employees found to be in violation of and disciplined for any felony offense, any misdemeanor 4 crime of dishonesty or offense involving the use of any illegal substance. The registry would be 5 publicly accessible online and updated regularly and the director would promulgate guidelines and 6 procedures to implement its provisions. 7 This act would take effect upon passage.

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