

2010 -- H 7760

=====
LC01698
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - COURTS - FAMILY COURT

Introduced By: Representatives Marcello, Winfield, Schadone, and Segal

Date Introduced: February 25, 2010

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 8-10-21 of the General Laws in Chapter 810 entitled "Family
2 Court" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **8-10-21. Records of court.** -- (a) The records of the family court shall be public records,
4 except that records of hearings in matters set forth in section 14-1-5, together with stenographic
5 notes and transcripts of those hearings, shall not be available for public inspection unless the
6 court shall otherwise order. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the records of the family
7 court in criminal matters involving adults shall be public records. The record of delinquent or
8 wayward adjudications of juveniles may be accessed by law enforcement personnel to be used for
9 law enforcement purposes only and shall remain otherwise confidential. The Attorney General
10 shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to facilitate the purposes of this section.

11 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), records of the family court
12 pertaining to delinquency or waywardness proceedings shall be open to inspection and copying at
13 any time by the custodial parent, guardian or attorney of the juvenile involved, upon submission
14 to the court clerk of a written release signed by the parent or guardian of the juvenile authorizing
15 such inspection and copying, and upon payment of any copying costs charged in accordance with
16 section 38-2-4.

17

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

=====
LC01698
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - COURTS - FAMILY COURT

1 This act would provide that custodial parents or guardians and any attorney representing
2 a juvenile may access records relating to delinquent or wayward adjudications of juveniles.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC01698
=====