

2016 -- H 7950

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LC005410
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- STREET LIGHTS ON STATE
ROADS

Introduced By: Representatives Marshall, Ucci, Gallison, Winfield, and Marcello

Date Introduced: March 16, 2016

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 39 of the General Laws entitled "PUBLIC UTILITIES AND
2 CARRIERS" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 30.1

4 STREET LIGHTS ON STATE ROADS

5 **39-30.1-1. Definitions.** -- When used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the
6 following meanings:

7 (1) "Electric distribution company" means a company defined in §39-1-2, supplying
8 standard offer service, last resort service, or any successor service to end-use customers.

9 (2) "Lighting equipment" means all equipment used to light streets in the municipality
10 located on state roads, the operation and maintenance of which is currently charged to the
11 municipality, including lighting ballasts, fixtures, and other equipment necessary for the
12 conversion of electric energy into street lighting service, but excluding the utility poles upon
13 which the lighting equipment is fixed. Lighting equipment shall include, but not be limited to,
14 decorative street and area lighting equipment and solid-state (LED) lighting technologies.

15 **39-30.1-2. Lighting equipment on state roads.** -- The cost to operate all lighting
16 equipment located on state roads shall be the responsibility of the state and not the municipality
17 where the lighting equipment is located. The electric distribution company shall bill the state for
18 the cost of operating said lighting equipment.

1 **39-30.1-3. Statewide audit required.** -- The department of transportation shall conduct
2 and audit of all lighting equipment located within every municipality on every state road. The
3 audit shall include a breakdown of all said lighting equipment by each state road in each
4 municipality. The department shall report its findings to the general assembly no later than
5 January 1, 2017.

6 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 PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- STREET LIGHTS ON STATE
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1 This act would provide that the cost to operate all lighting equipment located on state
2 roads would be the responsibility of the state and not the municipality where the lighting
3 equipment is located.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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