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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ASSAULTS

Introduced By: Representatives Craven, Marshall, Ruggiero, O'Brien, and Canario

Date Introduced: June 12, 2014

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 11-5 of the General Laws entitled "Assaults" is hereby amended by
2 adding thereto the following section:

3 **11-5-17. Assault or battery for purpose of causing unconsciousness.** – Any person
4 who shall make an assault or battery, or both, by causing or attempting to cause another person to
5 be rendered unconscious by a single punch, kick or other singular striking motion to the head of
6 such person for the purpose of bringing about the loss of consciousness of such person, or who
7 shall knowingly assist, aid, abet, solicit, encourage, counsel, command, or conspire to coerce any
8 person to commit such an act, shall be deemed to have committed a felony, and shall be
9 imprisoned for not more than three (3) years, or fined not more than one thousand five hundred
10 dollars (\$1,500), or both.

11 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 CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- ASSAULTS

1 This act would provide that any person who shall commit an assault or battery for the
2 purpose of causing unconsciousness, a so-called "knockout assault," would be deemed to have
3 committed a felony, and would be imprisoned for not more than three (3) years, or fined not more
4 than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), or both.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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