

2010 -- S 2102

LC00352

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - RHODE ISLAND VETERANS'  
HOME

Introduced By: Senators Felag, C Levesque, Bates, McBurney, and Sosnowski

Date Introduced: February 04, 2010

Referred To: Senate Constitutional & Regulatory Issues

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           RESOLVED, That a permanent joint oversight commission be and the same is hereby  
2 created consisting of seven (7) members: four (4) of whom shall be from the House of  
3 Representatives, not more than three (3) from the same political party to be appointed by the  
4 Speaker; and three (3) of whom shall be from the Senate, not more than two (2) from the same  
5 political party to be appointed by the Senate President.

6           The purpose of said commission shall be to oversee all aspects of the Rhode Island  
7 Veterans' Home. The commission shall conduct hearings, review, make findings and evaluate all  
8 aspects of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home, including, but not limited to, financial issues, patient  
9 care, staffing levels, physical plant, veterans' benefits, and any and all other services, as well as  
10 the future of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home.

11           The commission shall also coordinate and consult with the United States Veterans'  
12 Administration concerning the commission's oversight of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home.

13           Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
14 the call of the Speaker of the House and organize and shall select from among the legislators a  
15 chairperson. Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original  
16 appointment.

17           The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

18           The Rhode Island Veterans' Home shall furnish such advice and information,

1 documentary and otherwise, to the commission and its agents as is necessary or deemed  
2 necessary or desirable by the commission to facilitate the purpose of this resolution.

3 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,  
4 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
5 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

6 The joint commission of Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide  
7 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That said commission shall make findings and recommend initiatives and  
9 other actions deemed necessary to the General Assembly and shall report their findings  
10 periodically.

11 SECTION 1. Section 30-24-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 30-24 entitled "Rhode  
12 Island Veterans' Home" is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 **30-24-1. Management and control.** – (a) The management and control of the Rhode  
14 Island veterans' home, established in this state for those who served in the army, navy, marine  
15 corps, coast guard, or air force of the United States in any war or conflict and were honorably  
16 discharged therefrom, who shall be in need of such care as is provided at the home, shall be in the  
17 director of human services or his or her designee.

18 (b) A permanent joint oversight commission is hereby created consisting of seven (7)  
19 members: four (4) of whom shall be from the house of representatives, not more than three (3)  
20 from the same political party to be appointed by the speaker; and three (3) of whom shall be from  
21 the senate, not more than two (2) from the same political party to be appointed by the senate  
22 president.

23 (c)(1) The purpose of said commission shall be to oversee all aspects of the Rhode Island  
24 Veterans' Home. The commission shall conduct hearings, reviews, make findings and evaluate all  
25 aspects of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home, including, but not limited to, financial issues,  
26 patient care, staffing levels, physical plant, veterans' benefits, and any and all other services, as  
27 well as the future of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home.

28 (2) The commission shall also coordinate and consult with the United States Veterans'  
29 Administration concerning the commission's oversight of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home.

30 (3) The members of the commission shall meet at the call of the speaker of the house and  
31 organize and shall select from among the legislators a chairperson. Vacancies in said commission  
32 shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

33 (4) The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

34 (d)(1) The Rhode Island Veterans' Home shall furnish such advice and information,

1 documentary and otherwise, to the commission and its agents as is necessary or deemed  
2 necessary or desirable by the commission to facilitate the purpose of this resolution.

3 (2) All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,  
4 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
5 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

6 (e) The joint committee on legislative services is hereby authorized and directed to  
7 provide suitable quarters for said commission;

8 (f) The commission shall make findings and recommend initiatives and other actions  
9 deemed necessary to the general assembly and shall report their findings periodically.

10 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 MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE - RHODE ISLAND VETERANS'  
HOME

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1           This act would create a seven (7) member permanent legislative oversight commission to  
2   oversee all aspects of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home. The commission would periodically  
3   report findings and recommendations to the general assembly.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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