

2016 -- S 2119

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LC003956
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -- SPECIAL POLICE FOR PRIVATE
INSTITUTIONS

Introduced By: Senator Gayle L. Goldin

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-2.1-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-2.1 entitled "Special
2 Police for Private Institutions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **12-2.1-2. Powers of special police officers.** -- (a) Upon issuance of a license as a special
4 police officer under § 12-2.1-1, the person so designated as a special police officer shall have the
5 same immunities and may exercise, in and upon the lands and buildings of the institution by
6 which ~~he or she~~ the special police officer is employed, and upon streets and highways
7 immediately adjacent to ~~those lands~~ the institution's lands and buildings, the same powers and
8 authority of a police officer as are conferred by the laws of this state upon members of the
9 division of state police, including the power to arrest persons for violation of state criminal
10 statutes or for violation of city or town ordinances of the city or town in which the institution is
11 located, for the purpose of protecting the institution's lands and buildings, and students,
12 employees and visitors in and upon those lands and buildings.

13 (b) Where the institution has two (2) or more land areas and/or buildings separated by
14 public or private lands not owned by the institution, said special police officers appointed under
15 §12-2.1-1 shall also have jurisdiction in and upon the adjacent public street or highway corridors
16 for travel between the institution's properties. This jurisdiction is for the limited purpose of travel
17 on those public streets or highways between those land areas and/or buildings, and not for the
18 exercise of the powers and authority set forth in subsection (a) of this section, with the sole

1 [exception that those powers and authority may be exercised if, in the course of that travel, the](#)
2 [special police officer views a person or persons in danger of imminent, immediate bodily harm.](#)

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would set forth the jurisdiction of special police officers on educational
2 institutions and upon the land and buildings thereof and would clarify and limit their jurisdiction
3 to instances where the officer views a person or persons in danger of imminent, immediate bodily
4 harm, on public streets and highway corridors between land areas and/or buildings owned by
5 these educational institutions.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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