

2014 -- S 2187

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LC003247
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- LITTER CONTROL AND
RECYCLING

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Lynch, DaPonte, Goodwin, and Ruggerio

Date Introduced: January 30, 2014

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 37-15-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-15 entitled "Litter
2 Control and Recycling" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **37-15-7. Penalties.** -- (a) Any person convicted of a first violation of this chapter shall,
4 except where a penalty is specifically set forth, be subject to a fine of not less than eighty-five
5 dollars (\$85.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). In addition to or in lieu of the fine
6 imposed hereunder, the person so convicted may be ordered to pick up litter for not less than two
7 (2), nor more than twenty-five (25) hours.

8 (b) Any person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this chapter shall,
9 except where a penalty is specifically set forth, be subject to a fine of not less than three hundred
10 dollars (\$300) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). In addition to or in lieu of the fine
11 imposed upon a second or subsequent violation of this chapter, the person so convicted may be
12 ordered to pick up litter for not less than four (4), nor more than fifty (50) hours.

13 (c) Jurisdiction to punish violators of the provisions of this chapter is conferred on the
14 traffic tribunal.

15 (d) Any person convicted of a violation of this chapter shall, in addition to all other
16 penalties, be liable for the removal or cost of removal of all litter illegally disposed of by that
17 person. The traffic tribunal may hold the registration of any vehicle owned by the violator and
18 used in the act of littering until the aforementioned liability is satisfied.

1 (e) The funds received by a state law enforcement agency shall be deposited as general
2 revenues; provided, however that thirty percent (30%) of any fine collected pursuant to a
3 complaint filed by a local law enforcement agency shall inure to the benefit of that agency, with
4 remittances to be made not less often than once every three (3) months.

5 (f) Penalties of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) for violations of section 37-15-7 may be
6 disposed of without the necessity of personally appearing before the traffic tribunal. Said penalty
7 may be handled administratively by mailing a check or money order, together with properly
8 executed form provided to the appropriate address as set forth in the summons issued by the
9 enforcing agent.

10 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 provide that thirty percent (30%) of any fine for littering collected
2 pursuant to a complaint filed by a local law enforcement agency would inure to the benefit of that
3 agency, with remittances to be made not less often than once every three (3) months.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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