

2010 -- S 2448

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS - LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITY

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, McBurney, and DaPonte

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-8-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-8 entitled "Local
2 Canvassing Authorities" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-8-10. Publication of local questions to be submitted to voters.** -- (a) Prior to each
4 local election at which public questions are to be submitted, the local board shall cause to be
5 prominently posted in at least three (3) local public locations and advertised at least once in a
6 newspaper of local circulation, or in lieu of the requirement to place the advertisement in a
7 newspaper of local circulation, the City of Pawtucket may mail to the household of each
8 registered voter prior to the election the full text of each legislative act to be acted upon and the
9 election date, or the local board may substitute a description of the text of each act in lieu of the
10 full text, together with the following information:

11 (1) The designated number of the question;

12 (2) A brief caption of the question;

13 (3) A brief explanation of the measure that is the subject matter of the question; and

14 (4) A notice that voter fraud is a felony and the penalty for voter fraud. This notice shall
15 be in conspicuous lettering and shall contain the following language: "You must be registered to
16 vote from your actual place of residence."

17 (b) If the public question involves the issuance of bonds or other evidence of
18 indebtedness or any other long-term financial obligation such as a lease, the notice required by
19 subsection (a) of this section shall also include at least the following information to be provided:

1 (1) The estimated total cost of the project or program, including financing (using a
2 reasonable assumed rate of interest), legal, and other costs.

3 (2) The estimated useful life of the project, and the term of the bonds, other
4 indebtedness, or other obligation.

5 (3) A reasonably detailed description of the project or program, its purposes, and a
6 project timetable.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO ELECTIONS - LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITY

- 1 This act would permit the City of Pawtucket, in lieu of advertising public questions
- 2 before the local board, to mail the question to the household of every registered voter.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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