

2016 -- S 2591

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LC004787
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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 TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: February 25, 2016

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-23-44 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-23 entitled
2 "Subdivision of Land" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-23-44. General provisions -- Physical design requirements.** -- (a) All local
4 regulations shall specify, through reasonable, objective standards and criteria, all physical design
5 requirements for subdivisions and land development projects which are to be reviewed and
6 approved pursuant to the regulations. Regulations shall specify all requirements and policies for
7 subdivisions and land development projects which are not contained in the municipality's zoning
8 ordinance.

9 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict a municipality's right, within
10 state and local regulations, to establish its own minimum lot size per zoning district in its town or
11 city.

12 (c) The slope of land shall not be excluded from the calculation of the buildable lot area
13 or the minimum lot size, or in the calculation of the number of buildable lots or units.

14 [\(d\) Wetland buffers, as defined in §2-1-20, shall not be excluded from the calculation of](#)
15 [the buildable lot area or the minimum lot size, or in the calculation of the number of buildable](#)
16 [lots or units.](#)

17 ~~(d)~~(e) The requirements and policies may include, but are not limited to, requirements
18 and policies for rights-of-way, open space, landscaping, connections of proposed streets and
19 drainage systems with those of the surrounding neighborhood, public access through property to

1 adjacent public property, and the relationship of proposed developments to natural and man-made
2 features of the surrounding neighborhood.

3 ~~(e)~~(f) The regulations shall specify all necessary findings, formulas for calculations and
4 procedures for meeting the requirements and policies. These requirements and policies apply to
5 all subdivisions and land development projects reviewed and/or administered under the local
6 regulations.

7 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 TOWNS AND CITIES -- SUBDIVISION OF LAND

- 1 This act would provide that wetland buffers not be excluded from the calculation of
- 2 buildable lot areas, minimum lot sizes or in the calculation of buildable lots or units.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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