

2018 -- S 2948

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Goodwin, Cano, Quezada, and Calkin

Date Introduced: May 31, 2018

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 12-29-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 12-29 entitled "Domestic
2 Violence Prevention Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~12-29-12. Domestic violence prevention fund -- policy. Deborah DeBare domestic~~
4 ~~violence prevention fund -- policy.~~

5 (a) The general assembly finds and declares that domestic violence is a serious public
6 health concern in the state of Rhode Island, and that evidence-based domestic violence prevention
7 programs are important tools in decreasing the continuing toll that domestic violence takes on
8 Rhode Island communities, cities, and towns. It is therefore in the best interest of the state to
9 establish a fund to promote effective programs working toward the primary prevention of
10 domestic violence in Rhode Island.

11 (b) [Deborah DeBare](#) ~~Domestic domestic~~ violence prevention fund:

12 (1) There is created the [Deborah DeBare](#) domestic violence prevention fund program, to
13 be administered by the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

14 (2) The [Deborah DeBare](#) domestic violence prevention fund program monies shall be
15 used to fund evidence-based programs with the purpose of primary prevention of domestic
16 violence and dating violence in the state of Rhode Island.

17 (3) The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence shall convene a statewide
18 prevention fund advisory committee comprised of those with knowledge, experience, training
19 and/or expertise in the field of prevention of domestic violence and dating violence. The

1 committee members shall include, but are not limited to, the executive director of the Rhode
2 Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence, or their designee; the director of the department of
3 health, or their designee; the director of the department of human services, or their designee; the
4 attorney general, or their designee; and representative organizations providing domestic violence
5 and dating violence primary prevention services in Rhode Island.

6 (c) The committee shall be responsible for implementation of programs to prevent
7 domestic and dating abuse and shall:

8 (1) Develop a plan and budget for distribution of funds;

9 (2) Develop criteria for awarding and distributing funds received to develop plans and
10 programs for the prevention of domestic and dating violence;

11 (3) Issue requests for proposals to providers, organizations, firms, or entities that will
12 provide services to the committee;

13 (4) Review proposals for the funds and present recommendations to the board of directors
14 of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence;

15 (5) Monitor and account for the expenditure of funds and produce an annual report on the
16 activities of the [Deborah DeBare](#) domestic violence prevention fund. Annual reports shall be
17 submitted to the senate and house finance committees of the general assembly for review on or
18 before February 28 of each year; and

19 (6) Promote the general development of domestic violence primary prevention programs
20 and activities.

21 (d) Organizations submitting proposals for funds shall not participate in the review of
22 proposals or expenditure of funds. The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence shall
23 not be eligible to submit proposals for the committee's programs nor shall it be eligible to receive
24 any funds from the committee except as hereinafter provided.

25 (e) The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence may utilize up to ten percent
26 (10%) of the sums collected for the [Deborah DeBare](#) domestic violence prevention fund for the
27 purpose of administering the program and it shall also be required to submit an annual report
28 detailing the expenditure of funds to the senate and house finance committees on or before
29 February 28 of each year.

30 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 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT

- 1 This act would, in honor of Deborah DeBare, rename the domestic violence prevention
- 2 fund as the Deborah DeBare domestic violence prevention fund.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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