

2007 -- S 0474

LC01858

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2007

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RESTRICTING RADIO  
FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, Badeau, Maselli, and Ruggerio

Date Introduced: February 13, 2007

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND  
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 148

4 RESTRICTING RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES

5 **42-148-1. Restriction of radio frequency identification devices.** -- Except where  
6 required by federal law, no state or municipal agency, or any subdivision thereof, shall use, or  
7 request the use of Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFID) for the purpose of tracking the  
8 movement or identity of any employee, student or client, or of any other individual as a condition  
9 of obtaining a benefit or services from such agency.

10 **42-148-2. Civil action alleging a violation.** -- In any civil action allowing a violation of  
11 this chapter, the court may:

12 (1) Award damages and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to a prevailing plaintiff; and

13 (2) Afford injunctive and other appropriate relief against any agency that commits or  
14 proposes to commit a violation of this chapter.

15 **42-148-3. Scope.** -- (a) Nothing contained herein shall be construed to affect the  
16 otherwise lawful use of electronic monitoring devices by the department of corrections or the  
17 department of children, youth and families for individuals placed on electronic monitoring parole,  
18 home confinement, temporary community placement pursuant to section 14-1-36.1, or in

1 community correctional programs. Global Positioning devices are excluded.

2 (b) Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit the use of RFIDs for the  
3 purpose of tracking patients being transported to a hospital for emergency medical services in  
4 accordance with section 23-4.1-1; provided, however, that no information that personally  
5 identifies the individual shall be transmitted by the RFID unless HIPPA complaint.

6 (c) Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the use of RFIDs by a state or local  
7 government for the purpose of tracking the location of equipment or vehicles owned by the state  
8 or local government, provided that the RFID device shall not contain or transmit information that  
9 directly pertains to any individual.

10 **42-148-4. Exemptions.** – The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to public safety  
11 personnel on the scene of an emergency incident for the purposes of safety monitoring.

12 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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- RESTRICTING RADIO  
FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES

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1           This act would restrict the use of radio frequency identification devices for the purpose of  
2 tracking the movement or identity of an employee, student or client as a condition of obtaining a  
3 benefit or services from such agency.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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