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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

JOINT RESOLUTION

CREATING A TASK FORCE ON FIREARMS STATUTES TO REVIEW, AND MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR, REVISING THE STATUTORY FRAMEWORK RELATING
TO FIREARMS

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, Jabour, and Walaska

Date Introduced: April 11, 2013

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Governor)

1 WHEREAS, Many of the current laws enacted in our State relating to firearms have not
2 been reviewed for decades, and though various governmental stakeholders have come together
3 during the 2013 legislative session to propose ways to strengthen these laws, the General
4 Assembly believes that it is appropriate to conduct a comprehensive review of the overarching
5 statutory framework for these laws; and

6 WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the citizens of Rhode Island to convene a task
7 force composed of representatives from the legislative and executive branches of government to
8 conduct a review of current law, and make recommendations on the statutory framework relating
9 to responsible gun ownership, on the one hand, and crimes involving firearms, on the other hand;
10 now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Task Force on Firearms Statutes (hereinafter referred to as the
12 "Task Force") shall consist of the following members (it being understood that each member of
13 the Task Force may appoint a designee to attend Task Force meetings in his/her absence, and a
14 quorum of the Task Force shall consist of a majority of its current membership):

15 (1) Three (3) members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
16 House, not more than two (2) from the same political party;

17 (2) Three (3) members of the Senate appointed by the President, not more than two (2)
18 from the same political party;

19 (3) Two (2) members selected by the Governor;

- 1 (4) Attorney General;
2 (5) Director of the Department of Public Safety; and
3 (6) Director of the Department of Environmental Management; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Representative appointed from the political party of the Speaker
5 of the House and the Senator appointed from the political party of the President of the Senate
6 shall call the first meeting of the Task Force, and the members of the Task Force shall, at their
7 first meeting, elect a Chairperson, a Secretary, and any other officers they may find necessary;
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall assemble no less than two (2) times per month,
10 or more often at the call of the Chairperson or upon petition of a majority of its members; and be
11 it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall review chapter 11-47 of the Rhode Island
13 General Laws entitled "Weapons" and make recommendations to revise such chapter consistent
14 with this Joint Resolution which shall include, at a minimum, legislative proposals that
15 structurally differentiate between: (1) Purchases and ownership of firearms and ammunition; and
16 (2) Crimes involving firearms and ammunition ; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall transmit such recommendations to the Governor,
18 the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate on or before January 1, 2014; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That before transmitting such recommendations to the Governor, the
21 Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, the Task Force shall have conferred with
22 the Behavioral Health and Firearms Task Force to ensure that their proposed recommendations
23 for revising the Rhode Island General Laws do not conflict; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to
25 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, the President of the Senate and
26 the Speaker of the House.

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