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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- CHILDREN

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Miller, Goodwin, DaPonte, and Pichardo

Date Introduced: February 26, 2015

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-9-13.8.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-9 entitled
2 "Children" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-9-13.8.1. Signs concerning the health effects of tobacco.** -- Signs provided by the
4 department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals, or an exact
5 duplicate of it made privately, shall:

6 (1) Contain red bold lettering a minimum of one-quarters of an inch (1/4") high on a
7 white background the following wording, in both English and Spanish: WARNING: SMOKING
8 CIGARETTES AND ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES CONTRIBUTES TO LUNG DISEASE,
9 CANCER, HEART DISEASE, STROKE AND RESPIRATORY ILLNESS AND DURING
10 PREGNANCY MAY RESULT IN LOW BIRTH WEIGHT AND PREMATURE BIRTH.

11 (2) The signs shall also include information regarding the health impact of electronic
12 nicotine-delivery systems and resources available to Rhode Island residents who would like to
13 quit smoking, and stop using electronic nicotine-delivery systems.

14 (3) The signs shall be displayed prominently for public view wherever tobacco products
15 are sold at each cash register, each tobacco vending machine, or any other place from which
16 tobacco products are sold. The signs shall be electronically available in both English and Spanish
17 online at the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals'
18 website.

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require that warning signs about the adverse effects of cigarettes be
2 amended to include a warning about electronic cigarettes and would include information about
3 how to cease using electronic nicotine-delivery systems.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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