

2017 -- H 5719

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - PROCEDURE IN PARTICULAR
ACTIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, Chippendale, Price, Quattrocchi, and
Giarrusso

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 10-6-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 10-6 entitled "Contribution
2 Among Joint Tortfeasors" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **10-6-2. "Joint tortfeasors" defined.**

4 [\(a\)](#) For the purposes of this chapter, the term "joint tortfeasors" means two (2) or more
5 persons jointly or severally liable in tort for the same injury to person or property, whether or not
6 judgment has been recovered against all or some of them; provided, however, that a master and
7 servant or principal and agent shall be considered a single tortfeasor.

8 [\(b\) Notwithstanding subsection \(a\) of this section, no party shall be deemed jointly liable](#)
9 [in tort for an injury to person or property unless it is determined that such person is at least fifty-](#)
10 [one percent \(51%\) liable in tort for the injury to person or property.](#)

11 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 provide that no party would be deemed jointly liable in tort for an injury
2 to person or property unless it is determined that such person is at least fifty-one percent (51%)
3 liable in tort for the injury.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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