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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- LAW PRACTICE

Introduced By: Senators Lombardi, Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Jabour, and Archambault

Date Introduced: January 18, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 11-27-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-27 entitled "Law  
2 Practice" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **11-27-5. Practice restricted to members of bar.**

4           (a) No person, except a duly admitted member of the bar of this state, whose authority as  
5 a member to practice law is in full force and effect, shall practice law in this state.

6           (b) Any duly admitted member of the bar of this state pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
7 section shall be required to acquire and maintain a policy of malpractice insurance in an amount  
8 of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

9           (c) Any member of the bar violating the requirement to acquire and maintain a  
10 malpractice insurance policy of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be subject to a  
11 civil penalty amounting to a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to five thousand dollars  
12 (\$5,000) as determined by the unauthorized practice of law committee in accordance with §11-  
13 27-19.

14           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- LAW PRACTICE

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1           This act would require duly admitted members of the bar of this state to acquire and  
2 maintain malpractice insurance in the minimum amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

3           This act would take effect on July 1, 2017.

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