

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- PUBLIC USE OF PRIVATE  
LANDS--LIABILITY LIMITATIONS

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, and Archambault

Date Introduced: March 02, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 32-6-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 32-6 entitled "Public Use of  
2 Private Lands-Liability Limitations" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **32-6-2. Definitions.**

4 As used in this chapter:

5 (1) "Charge" means the admission price or fee asked in return for invitation or permission  
6 to enter or go upon the land;

7 (2) "Land" means land, roads, water, watercourses, private ways and buildings,  
8 structures, and machinery or equipment when attached to the realty;

9 (3) "Owner" means the private-owner possessor of a fee interest, or tenant, lessee,  
10 occupant, or person in control of the premises, ~~including the state and municipalities;~~

11 (4) "Recreational purposes" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following, or any  
12 combination thereof: hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking,  
13 horseback riding, bicycling, pleasure driving, nature study, water skiing, water sports, viewing or  
14 enjoying historical, archaeological, scenic, or scientific sites, and all other recreational purposes  
15 contemplated by this chapter; and

16 (5) "User" means any person using land for recreational purposes.

1 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 change the definition of "owner" to exclude the state and municipalities
- 2 for the purposes of liability limitations relating to public use of private lands.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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