

2018 -- H 7615

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PROPERTY - HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

Introduced By: Representatives Canario, Vella-Wilkinson, Casey, Edwards, and Lima

Date Introduced: February 14, 2018

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 34-37.1 of the General Laws entitled "Homeless Bill of Rights" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **34-37.1-6. Homeless persons with service animals - Homeless shelters.**

4 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit persons from entering a homeless  
5 shelter while in possession of a service animal as defined in the "Americans with Disabilities  
6 Act" (32 CFR 35.136) and the state and federal "Fair Housing Acts".

7 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO PROPERTY - HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS

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1           This act would protect homeless persons in possession of a service animal, as defined  
2 under the Americans with Disabilities Act, from being denied access to any homeless shelter in  
3 violation of the ADA or the state or federal Fair Housing Practices Acts.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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