

2019 -- H 5111

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Introduced By: Representative Lauren H. Carson

Date Introduced: January 11, 2019

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-13-2.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-13 entitled
2 "Department of Transportation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~42-13-2.1. Duties of the department -- Rhode Works project~~ Duties of the
4 department -- Rhode Works projects.

5 (a) It shall be the responsibility of the department to identify the businesses, senior citizen
6 housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers affected and the specific impact of
7 rhode works projects on small businesses, senior citizen housing complexes, senior citizens
8 centers and senior centers and to deliver and communicate this information to the department of
9 commerce. The department shall identify the traffic flow to Rhode Island small business
10 commercial areas, senior citizen housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers as
11 it relates to road and bridge closings due to rhode works projects, and the realignment of the
12 Newport Bridge ramps, identify road and bridge closings, parking restrictions, and alterations in
13 traffic patterns to accommodate road and bridge repairs, including proposed dates of work, road
14 closures, and re-routing of any traffic and parking patterns.

15 (b) During construction season (April through October), the department shall share the
16 information collected in subsection (a) with the commerce corporation to allow at least two (2)
17 months for the commerce corporation to assist small businesses, senior citizen housing
18 complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers affected by rhode works projects in the

1 affected communities and neighborhoods as set forth in subsection (c). During emergencies, the
2 department will contact the commerce corporation in order to coordinate a plan of action in the
3 affected area. The department will meet with the commerce corporation on a regular basis in
4 order to review upcoming projects and coordinate a plan of action for the affected businesses,
5 [senior citizen housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers](#).

6 (c) The commerce corporation shall provide those affected businesses, [senior citizen](#)
7 [housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers](#) in the construction areas with a list
8 of available resources, programs, and services that, if utilized, might minimize the economic and
9 financial impact upon those businesses, [senior citizen housing complexes, senior citizens centers](#)
10 [and senior centers](#) during road and bridge construction, including, but not limited to, contact by
11 the commerce corporation to affected businesses, [senior citizen housing complexes, senior](#)
12 [citizens centers and senior centers](#) and if desired, meeting with affected businesses, [senior citizen](#)
13 [housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers](#) during construction.

14 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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF
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1 This act would require the department of transportation and the commerce corporation to
2 coordinate with senior citizen housing complexes, senior citizens centers and senior centers in
3 addition to small businesses to minimize the economic and financial impact of road works
4 projects.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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