

2019 -- H 6208

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LC002794
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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 -- TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Cortvriend, Donovan, Fogarty, and
McEntee

Date Introduced: June 12, 2019

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-12-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-12 entitled
2 "Department of Human Services" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-12-19. Permanent advisory commission on traumatic brain injuries --**
4 **Commission established.**

5 (a) There is hereby established a permanent advisory commission on traumatic brain
6 injuries.

7 (b) The purpose of the commission shall be to:

8 (1) Report on all matters relating to traumatic brain injury in Rhode Island to the
9 governor and the general assembly.

10 (2) Advise the executive office of health and human services, the department of
11 behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals, and the department of health
12 regarding the development of priorities and criteria for disbursement of moneys in response to
13 both individual requests and grant-seeking entities from the traumatic brain injury fund. Such
14 priorities and criteria shall be in accordance with the expenditure guidelines set forth in § 42-12-
15 28 of this chapter.

16 (3) Advise the executive office of health and human services, the department of
17 behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals, and the department of health on
18 all matters regarding traumatic brain injury.

19 (c) The commission shall consist of ~~twenty (20)~~ twenty-six (26) members. They shall

1 meet not less than four (4) times a year and report their findings annually to the governor and
2 general assembly. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation. The
3 commissioners shall elect their own officers on a biennial basis.

4 (d) The membership of the commission shall be as follows: The secretary of the
5 executive office of health and human services or his or her designee, the director of the
6 department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals or his or her
7 designee; the director of the department of health or his or her designee; the director of the
8 department of human services or his or her designee; the director of the department of education
9 or his or her designee, all of whom shall serve ex-officio; the chief of neurosurgery at Rhode
10 Island Hospital or his or her designee; the president and executive director or two (2) designees of
11 the Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island; the director of the Rhode Island Disability Law
12 Center or his or her designee; the governor or his or her designee; and ~~ten (10)~~ sixteen (16)
13 persons appointed by the governor as follows: ~~two (2)~~ eight (8) persons who are unrelated, ~~one~~
14 seven (7) of whom must have a traumatic brain injury, and one of whom may be an immediate
15 family member of an individual with a traumatic brain injury; one person who is a neurologist;
16 one person who is a physiatrist; one person who is a neuropsychologist; one person who is a
17 cognitive rehabilitation specialist; one of whom is a traumatic brain injury case manager; one of
18 whom is a physical therapist or occupational therapist; one of whom is a representative of a post-
19 acute rehabilitation facility; and one person who is a community-based service provider.

20 (e) The first meeting of the members of the commission shall be called to order by the
21 governor or his or her designee within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this act [July 7,
22 2006]. Of the ten (10) members appointed by the governor, three (3) shall serve a term of one
23 year, three (3) shall serve a term of two (2) years, and four (4) shall serve a term of three (3)
24 years. Upon expiration of the initial term, commission members shall serve terms of three (3)
25 years. The initial terms of commission members shall be determined by lot.

26 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 add six members to the commission on traumatic brain injuries.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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