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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS

Introduced By: Representatives Baginski, and Potter

Date Introduced: June 04, 2021

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-18-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-18 entitled "Elective
2 Meetings" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-18-3. Warning and organization of senatorial district, representative district, and**
4 **voting district meetings.**

5 Senatorial district meetings, representative district meetings, and voting district meetings
6 for the purposes of election shall be warned and organized as is or may be provided by law, and
7 notice of all these meetings shall be given by the city or town clerk issuing his or her warrant,
8 directed to the town sergeant or one of the constables of that city or town, or in the event that the
9 town sergeant or a constable is not available, to any member of the town or city clerk's office or
10 member of the board of canvassers, directing him or her to post, at least seven (7) days before the
11 day appointed for these meetings, written notifications in one or more public places in each voting
12 district, and in each senatorial and representative district not divided into voting districts, of the
13 time when, and place where, each meeting is to be held, and of the business required by law to be
14 transacted in the meeting, and stating in the warrant the time of the opening and closing of the polls
15 at each elective meeting to be held in that city or town; [provided, that the local boards may, at their](#)
16 [discretion, substitute notification by publication in a newspaper having local circulation for](#)
17 [notification by posting in public places; and further](#) provided, that in the cities of Providence,
18 Pawtucket, Central Falls, Newport, Cranston, Warwick, and Woonsocket, the notice shall be given
19 and posted by the local board.

1 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 ELECTIONS -- ELECTIVE MEETINGS

1 This act would allow local boards of canvassers discretion to substitute the physical posting
2 in each voting district of senatorial district meetings, representative district meetings, and voting
3 district meetings for the purposes of election with publication in a newspaper having local
4 circulation.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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