

2012 -- H 7816

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE,  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS - COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

Introduced By: Representative Scott Slater

Date Introduced: February 28, 2012

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 40.1-24.5 of the General Laws entitled "Community Residences" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **40.1-24.5-20. Private providers direct care pay equity. – Commencing on July 1, 2014,**  
4 **notwithstanding any provision of the general or public laws, or rule or regulation to the contrary,**  
5 **private providers operating community residences for developmentally disabled clients must pay**  
6 **their direct care employees wages equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the first step hourly**  
7 **wages paid to Rhode Island community living and supports community living aides. In addition,**  
8 **health care benefits shall be equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the value of those received by**  
9 **living aides.**

10           The department of behavioral health care, developmental disabilities and hospitals shall  
11 conduct an annual survey to report the annual hourly wage, educational requirements, and in-  
12 service training provided to private providers' direct care staff. This report shall be a public  
13 record and shall be provided to the members of the house and senate finance committees by July  
14 1, 2014, and annually thereafter.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE,  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS - COMMUNITY RESIDENCES

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- 1           This act would set a minimum wage and benefits scale for employees of private providers
- 2   operating community residences, commencing July 1, 2014.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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