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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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE AMERICAN AND
SOUTHEAST ASIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Introduced By: Representatives Slater, Diaz, and Hull

Date Introduced: March 29, 2012

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 155

4 THE AMERICAN AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE COMMISSION

5 **42-155-1. Commission established. --** There shall be an American and Southeast Asians
6 cultural exchange commission to consist of nine (9) members, all of whom shall be American
7 citizens descended from Cambodia, Laos, Hmong, and Vietnam, and be residents of the state;
8 three (3) of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; three (3) of
9 whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate; and three (3) of whom shall be appointed
10 by the governor. The commission shall establish and maintain, cultural ties between the countries
11 of Cambodia, Laos, Hmong, and Vietnam and the Southeast Asian American community, and
12 shall foster a special interest in the historical and cultural background of all groups, as well as in
13 the economic, political, social, and artistic life of the countries involved; and shall help establish
14 and/or promote the Southeast Asian languages in Rhode Island's schools.

15 **42-155-2. Terms of office - Chairperson. --** The members shall be appointed for terms
16 of two (2) years except that of the two (2) members originally appointed by each of the
17 appointing authorities; one shall be appointed for a term of one year, one shall be appointed for a
18 term of two (2) years. The members shall annually elect one of them as chairperson of the

1 [commission.](#)

2 **42-155-3. Authority to accept grants.** -- [In addition to any of its other powers and](#)
3 [responsibilities, the commission is authorized and empowered to accept any grants made](#)
4 [available by the United States government or any agency of the United States government and the](#)
5 [commission, with the approval of the governor, is authorized and empowered to perform these](#)
6 [acts and enter into all necessary contracts and agreements with the United States or any agency of](#)
7 [the United States government as may be necessary in the manner and degree as shall be deemed](#)
8 [to be in the best interest of the state. The proceeds of grants received shall be paid to the general](#)
9 [treasurer of the state and be deposited by him or her in a separate fund and shall be utilized for the](#)
10 [purposes of those grants.](#)

11 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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - THE AMERICAN AND
SOUTHEAST ASIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE COMMISSION

- 1 This act would create an American and Southeast Asian Cultural Exchange Commission.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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