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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

AN ACT

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- COURT ADMINISTRATION

Introduced By: Representatives Solomon, Coughlin, Shekarchi, Craven, and McEntee

Date Introduced: February 12, 2016

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 8-15-9.3 of the General Laws in Chapter 8-15 entitled "Court Administration" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8-15-9.3. Public inspection of court payments owed. -- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the director of the finance section on a quarterly basis shall prepare a list of the persons who owe court imposed or court related fees, fines, court costs, assessments, charges and/or any other monetary obligations due and owing to the state which have been unpaid for a period in excess of ninety (90) days from the date that any such amounts were due and are not the subject of a court-ordered payment plan in good standing. (The above fees are hereinafter referred to as "Overdue Court Fees".) The list shall contain the name and address city or town and state of each person who owes Overdue Court Fees as of the end of the quarter, together with the total amount owed, and the date that the Overdue Court Fees were imposed and the date they became due of disposition. No person owing Overdue Court Fees shall be included on such list if the underlying matter in which Overdue Court Fees were imposed, or the amount of the fees, is the subject of an appeal.

(b) The director of finance shall not include a person's name on the list unless he or she has given the person at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of the intent to include the person's name on the list. Said notice shall be sent to the person's last known address by regular mail. If during said thirty (30) day period, the person pays the overdue court fines in full, the

- 1 name of the person shall not be included on the list.
- 2 (c) Any such list prepared by the director of finance shall be available to the public for
- 3 inspection and shall be published on the website that is maintained by the courts; . Provided
- 4 <u>provided</u>, however, that any such list prepared by the director shall not include any individuals
- 5 social security number or driver's license number.
- 6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--COURTS -- COURT ADMINISTRATION

This act would remove the thirty (30) day mail notice requirement which must be provided to those owing overdue court fees due prior to their names being published.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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