

2016 -- S 2104

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LC003894
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN -- PROCEEDINGS IN
FAMILY COURT

Introduced By: Senators Walaska, and Picard

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 14-1 of the General Laws entitled "Proceedings in Family Court" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **14-1-5.2. Age restrictions for children.** – (a) Children under ten (10) years of age shall
4 not be left home alone.

5 (b) Children at least ten (10) years of age and not more than twelve (12) years of age shall
6 be allowed to stay home alone for brief periods of time, but not after 9:00 pm.

7 (c) Children over twelve (12) years of age may be left home alone, but not overnight.

8 (d) Parents and legal guardians should use their judgment to assess the maturity and
9 responsibility of their children and to discuss safety procedures and precautions before deciding
10 whether to leave their child(ren) home alone.

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

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- 1 This act would set guidelines for children staying home alone.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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