

2017 -- H 5598

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - STATE POLICE - DIVERSITY

Introduced By: Representative Anastasia P. Williams

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-28-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-28 entitled "State  
2 Police" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-28-4. Composition of division.**

4 (a) There shall be a division of state police consisting of the following members: a  
5 superintendent who shall have the rank of full colonel; as many captains as the superintendent  
6 shall deem necessary, two lieutenant colonels, three majors; as many lieutenants as the  
7 superintendent shall deem necessary; and such other personnel, the number and rank of whom  
8 shall be designated by the superintendent, and the general assembly shall annually appropriate  
9 such sum as it may deem necessary for the payment of the salaries of the members of the  
10 division. The member of the Rhode Island state police who shall be assigned by the  
11 superintendent to execute the duties of deputy superintendent shall have the rank of lieutenant  
12 colonel.

13 (b) The ranks of the division of state police shall reflect the diversity of the community  
14 which it serves. The superintendent of state police shall conduct a vigorous effort to recruit  
15 persons of color to the Rhode Island state police training academy and shall utilize all forms of  
16 media in this effort including, but not limited to, print and electronic media, radio and television.  
17 The recruitment effort required by this section shall include dissemination of information relating  
18 to the selection and training process for admission to the Rhode Island state police training  
19 academy.

1           (c) Beginning June 30, 2018, at least one in every five (5) recruits attending the Rhode  
2 Island State Police Training Academy shall be a person of color.

3           (d) Beginning June 30, 2019, at least one in every five (5) new appointments to be  
4 members of the state police shall be a member who is a person of color.

5           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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - STATE POLICE - DIVERSITY

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1           This act would require that by June 30, 2018, at least one in every five (5) recruits to the  
2 Rhode Island State Police Training Academy be a person of color and by June 30, 2019 at least  
3 one in every five (5) new appointments to the Rhode Island State Police be a person of color and  
4 would also require the superintendent to conduct a vigorous effort to recruit persons of color to  
5 the Rhode Island State Police Training Academy.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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