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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY – STATE BUILDING CODE

Introduced By: Senators Valverde, Acosta, Mendes, Mack, DiMario, Sosnowski, and
Cano

Date Introduced: April 01, 2021

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-27.3-701 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-27.3 entitled "State
2 Building Code" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-27.3-701. ~~Baby changing tables.~~ Baby changing tables - State and municipal**
4 **buildings**

5 (a) All new construction of state and municipal buildings opened to the public commenced
6 after December 31, 1999, and all renovations, and replacements of a value in excess of fifty percent
7 (50%) of existing public state and municipal buildings open to the public commenced after
8 December 31, 1999, [and the Rhode Island state house](#) shall provide for baby changing tables in
9 ~~both ladies' and men's rooms~~ [all publicly accessible restrooms](#).

10 (b) A municipality may apply to the local building official for a waiver of this provision in
11 the case of unreasonable hardship.

12 (c) The building codes standard committee shall adopt and promulgate all rules and
13 regulations required to carry out the purpose of this section.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 23-27.3 of the General Laws entitled "State Building Code" is hereby
15 amended by adding thereto the following section:

16 **23-27.3-701.1. Baby changing tables - Publicly accessible buildings.**

17 [All new or substantially renovated construction of publicly accessible buildings shall](#)
18 [provide for baby changing tables in all publicly accessible restrooms and shall ensure the](#)
19 [accommodation is equally available or provided regardless of the gender for which the restroom is](#)

1 [designed.](#)

2 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY – STATE BUILDING CODE

1 This act would require that baby changing tables are installed in all publicly accessible
2 restrooms in existing state and municipal buildings when substantial renovations take place,
3 including the state house and in all such buildings that are newly constructed. It also requires that
4 the accommodations are equally available or provided regardless of the gender for which the
5 restroom is designed.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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