

2023 -- S 0683

LC002630

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Introduced By: Senator Alana DiMario

Date Introduced: March 17, 2023

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-24-46.5 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-24 entitled "Zoning  
2 Ordinances" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-24-46.5. Special provisions — Emergency declaration modifications.**

4 (a) A moratorium is hereby imposed on the enforcement of any municipal ordinance or  
5 zoning regulation that would penalize any food business or food service establishment, as defined  
6 in § 21-27-1, or bar as defined in § 23-20.10-2, for any alterations or modifications to its business  
7 made in order to comply with any directives, executive orders, or restrictions issued by the  
8 governor, principal executive officer of a political subdivision, or the director of the department of  
9 health based upon an emergency declaration issued pursuant to § 30-15-9 or § 30-15-13.

10 (b) The moratorium imposed pursuant to this section shall continue throughout the  
11 emergency declaration and shall remain effective until ~~April 1, 2023~~ [February 15, 2024](#). During  
12 this period, all approved nonconforming uses adopted to comply with the emergency declaration  
13 shall be permitted to continue.

14 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 TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

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1           This act would extend the moratorium on penalties related to COVID-19 modifications to  
2 food business or food service establishments to February 15, 2024.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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