

2024 -- H 7915

=====
LC005178
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

—————
A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM --
CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

Introduced By: Representative Thomas E. Noret

Date Introduced: March 04, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 36-10-40 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-10 entitled "Retirement
2 System — Contributions and Benefits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **36-10-40. Domestic partner — Definition.**

4 For purposes of this chapter, "domestic partner" shall be defined as a person who, prior to
5 the decedent's death, was in an exclusive, intimate and committed relationship with the decedent,
6 and who certifies by affidavit that their relationship met the following qualifications:

7 (1) Both partners were at least eighteen (18) years of age and were mentally competent to
8 contract;

9 (2) Neither partner was married to anyone else;

10 (3) Partners were not related by blood to a degree which would prohibit marriage in the
11 state of Rhode Island;

12 (4) Partners resided together and had resided together for at least one year at the time of
13 death; and

14 (5) Partners were financially interdependent as evidenced by at least two (2) of the
15 following:

16 (i) Domestic partnership agreement or relationship contract;

17 (ii) Joint mortgage or joint ownership of primary residence;

18 (iii) Two (2) of: (A) joint ownership of motor vehicle; (B) joint checking [or savings](#)

1 account; (C) joint credit account; (D) [any lease that includes both partners including, but not limited](#)
2 [to any](#) joint lease; and/or

3 (iv) The domestic partner had been designated as a beneficiary for the decedent's will,
4 retirement [contract, city or town beneficiary designation form](#) or life insurance.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and have retroactive application.

=====
LC005178
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM --
CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

- 1 This act would amend the definition of "domestic partner" for purposes of the retirement
- 2 system -- contributions and benefits chapter.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC005178
=====