

2018 -- H 7172

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND AGING
AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Morin, Fogarty, Regunberg, and Ruggiero

Date Introduced: January 17, 2018

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 66.12

4 THE RHODE ISLAND AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

5 **42-66.12-1. Short title.**

6 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "The Rhode Island Aging and
7 Disability Resource Center Act".

8 **42-66.12-2. Purpose.**

9 To assist Rhode Islanders and their families in making informed choices and decisions
10 about long-term service and support options and to streamline access to long-term supports and
11 services for older adults, persons with disabilities, family caregivers and providers, a statewide
12 aging and disability resource center shall be maintained. The Rhode Island aging and disability
13 resource center (ADRC) is a state multi-agency effort. It consists of a centrally operated,
14 coordinated system of information, referral and options counseling for all persons seeking long-
15 term supports and services in order to enhance individual choice, foster informed decision-
16 making and minimize confusion and duplication.

17 **42-66.12-3. Aging and disability resource center established.**

18 The Rhode Island aging and disability resource center (ADRC) shall be established and

1 operated by the department of human services, division of elderly affairs (DEA) in collaboration
2 with other agencies within the executive office of health and human services. The division of
3 elderly affairs shall build on its experience in development and implementation of the current
4 ADRC program. The ADRC is an integral part of the Rhode Island system of long-term supports
5 and services working to promote the state's long-term system rebalancing goals by diverting
6 persons, when appropriate, from institutional care to home and community-based services and
7 preventing short-term institutional stays from becoming permanent through options counseling
8 and screening for eligibility for home and community-based services.

9 **42-66.12-4. Aging and disability resource center service directives.**

10 (a) The aging and disability resource center (ADRC) shall provide for the following:

11 (1) A statewide toll-free ADRC information number available during business hours with
12 a messaging system to respond to after-hours calls during the next business day and language
13 services to assist individuals with limited English language skills;

14 (2) A comprehensive database of information, updated on a regular basis and accessible
15 through a dedicated website, on the full range of available public and private long-term support
16 and service programs, service providers and resources within the state and in specific
17 communities, including information on housing supports, transportation and the availability of
18 integrated long-term care;

19 (3) Personal options counseling, including implementing provisions required in § 40-8.9-
20 9, to assist individuals in assessing their existing or anticipated long-term care needs, and
21 assisting them to develop and implement a plan designed to meet their specific needs and
22 circumstances;

23 (4) A means to link callers to the ADRC information line to interactive long-term care
24 screening tools and to make these tools available through the ADRC website by integrating the
25 tools into the website;

26 (5) Development of partnerships, through memorandum agreements or other
27 arrangements, with other entities serving older adults and persons with disabilities, including
28 those working on nursing home transition and hospital discharge programs, to assist in
29 maintaining and providing ADRC services; and

30 (6) Community education and outreach activities to inform persons about the ADRC
31 services, in finding information through the Internet and in planning for future long-term care
32 needs including housing and community service options.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND AGING
AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

1 This act would establish within the department of human services, division of elderly
2 affairs (DEA), the Rhode Island aging and disability resource center (ADRC) as part of the Rhode
3 Island system of long-term care for older adults, persons with disabilities, family caregivers and
4 providers.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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