

2014 -- H 7502

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LC004367  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY --  
JUDGMENTS, ORDERS AND DECREES -- INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS

Introduced By: Representatives Marcello, Hearn, Nunes, Ajello, and Morgan

Date Introduced: February 13, 2014

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 9-21-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 9-21 entitled "Judgments,  
2 Orders, and Decrees" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **9-21-10. Interest in civil actions.** -- (a) In any civil action in which a verdict is rendered  
4 or a decision made for pecuniary damages, there shall be added by the clerk of the court to the  
5 amount of damages interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum thereon from the date  
6 ~~the cause of action accrued~~ of the filing of the civil action, which shall be included in the  
7 judgment entered therein. Post-judgment interest shall be calculated at the rate of twelve percent  
8 (12%) per annum and accrue on both the principal amount of the judgment and the prejudgment  
9 interest entered therein. This section shall not apply until entry of judgment or to any contractual  
10 obligation where interest is already provided.

11           ~~(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any action filed on or after January 1, 1987, for~~  
12 ~~personal injury or wrongful death filed against a licensed physician, hospital, clinic, health~~  
13 ~~maintenance organization, professional service corporation providing health care services, dentist,~~  
14 ~~or dental hygienist based on professional negligence. In all such medical malpractice actions in~~  
15 ~~which a verdict is rendered or a decision made for pecuniary damages, there shall be added by the~~  
16 ~~clerk of the court to the amount of damages interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum~~  
17 ~~thereon from the date of written notice of the claim by the claimant or his or her representative to~~  
18 ~~the malpractice liability insurer, or to the medical or dental health care provider or the filing of~~

1 ~~the civil action, whichever first occurs.~~

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2015.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE--PROCEDURE GENERALLY --  
JUDGMENTS, ORDERS AND DECREES -- INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS

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- 1           This act would provide that interest on judgments would accrue from the date of the
- 2 filing of the civil action, not the date the cause of action accrued.
- 3           This act would take effect on January 1, 2015.

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