

2014 -- S 2721

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LC004913  
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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 PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, and Goldin

Date Introduced: March 05, 2014

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 37-15-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-15 entitled "Litter  
2 Control and Recycling" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **37-15-7. Penalties.** -- (a) Any person convicted of a first violation of this chapter shall,  
4 except where a penalty is specifically set forth, be subject to a fine of not less than eighty-five  
5 dollars (\$85.00) nor more than ~~five hundred dollars (\$500)~~ one thousand dollars (\$1,000). In  
6 addition to or in lieu of the fine imposed hereunder, the person so convicted may be ordered to  
7 pick up litter for not less than two (2), nor more than twenty-five (25) hours.

8 (b) Any person convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this chapter shall,  
9 except where a penalty is specifically set forth, be subject to a fine of not less than three hundred  
10 dollars (\$300) nor more than ~~five hundred dollars (\$500)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000). In  
11 addition to or in lieu of the fine imposed upon a second or subsequent violation of this chapter,  
12 the person so convicted may be ordered to pick up litter for not less than four (4), nor more than  
13 fifty (50) hours.

14 (c) Jurisdiction to punish violators of the provisions of this chapter is conferred on the  
15 traffic tribunal.

16 (d) Any person convicted of a violation of this chapter shall, in addition to all other  
17 penalties, be liable for the removal or cost of removal of all litter illegally disposed of by that  
18 person. The traffic tribunal may hold the registration of any vehicle owned by the violator and  
19 used in the act of littering until the aforementioned liability is satisfied.

1           (e) The funds received by a state law enforcement agency shall be deposited as general  
2 revenues.

3           (f) Penalties of eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) for violations of section 37-15-7 may be  
4 disposed of without the necessity of personally appearing before the traffic tribunal. Said penalty  
5 may be handled administratively by mailing a check or money order, together with properly  
6 executed form provided to the appropriate address as set forth in the summons issued by the  
7 enforcing agent.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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- 1           This act would raise the maximum penalties for littering from five hundred dollars (\$500)
- 2   to one thousand dollars (\$1000) for the first offense and from five hundred dollars (\$500) to five
- 3   thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a subsequent offense.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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