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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 TOWNS AND CITIES - GENERAL POWERS - RETIREMENT OF
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, Jabour, Pichardo, and Miller

Date Introduced: March 18, 2014

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-21 of the General Laws entitled "Retirement of Municipal
2 Employees" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-21-61.1. Payment of pension during incarceration - Prohibited.** – Notwithstanding
4 any other provision of law, no retired municipal member of the employees' retirement system of
5 Rhode Island, any locally administered plan, or any plan established by a municipality for its
6 employees, who is convicted of any offense punishable by life in prison, shall be entitled to a
7 public pension or annuity during the member's period of incarceration. However, the retirement
8 board or any body or authority governing any locally-administered plan, or any plan established
9 by a municipality for its employees, may, in its discretion, and after taking into consideration the
10 financial needs and resources of any innocent spouse or domestic partner, dependents and/or
11 designated beneficiaries of the retired municipal member, order that some or all of the suspended
12 pension benefit or annuity payments be paid to any innocent spouse or domestic partner,
13 dependent or beneficiary as justice may require.

14 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 TOWNS AND CITIES - GENERAL POWERS - RETIREMENT OF
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1 This act would prevent any retired municipal employee convicted of any offense
2 punishable by life in prison from collecting a public pension or annuity during his or her period of
3 incarceration. This act would also permit the retirement board to make certain exceptions for the
4 financial needs of an innocent spouse, domestic partner, dependents and/or designated
5 beneficiaries.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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