

2019 -- S 0906

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LC002587
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO AERONAUTICS -- THE PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, and McKenney

Date Introduced: May 22, 2019

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 1-7-5, 1-7-6, and 1-7-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 1-7 entitled
2 "The Permanent Air Quality Monitoring Act" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **1-7-5. Health study.**

4 (a) The corporation shall provide the department of health with funding in an amount not
5 to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), half to be paid in fiscal year 2008 and the
6 other half to be paid in fiscal year 2009, which funds the department of health will use for an
7 independent health study ([the "study" or the "health study"](#)) developed in consultation with the
8 department of environmental management and the air quality monitoring public advisory
9 committee. The purpose of the study will be to determine whether and to what extent, air
10 pollution generated by airport activities affects the health of area residents based, to the extent
11 feasible, on established health benchmarks.

12 (b) The study shall use the data collected from the first year of long-term, air-quality
13 monitoring at the airport described in the previous sections to evaluate potential public health
14 implications of emissions based, to the extent feasible, on established health benchmarks, and
15 shall be completed and submitted to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and
16 the president of the senate no later than May 30, 2009.

17 [\(c\) The corporation, the department of health, and the city of Warwick shall publish](#)
18 [technical reports and scientific publications that resulted from this health study on their respective](#)
19 [websites no later than July 31, 2019, and shall maintain them on their respective websites for at](#)

1 [least five \(5\) years thereafter.](#)

2 **1-7-6. Reporting.**

3 (a) The corporation shall provide the department of environmental management with an
4 inventory of greenhouse gas pollutants, including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide and methane,
5 and an annual inventory of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide. The inventories
6 of data generated in the prior calendar year shall be reported to the department of environmental
7 management on or before March 30, 2009, and every March 30 thereafter.

8 (b) Data generated from the permanent air-quality monitors shall be reported to the
9 department of environmental management, ~~and~~ the department of health, [and to the city of](#)
10 [Warwick](#) on at least a quarterly basis and shall be used by the departments to continuously
11 augment and update air-quality-monitoring studies conducted by the departments. [The](#)
12 [corporation shall publish the data on its website within thirty \(30\) calendar days of the end of the](#)
13 [quarter.](#)

14 (c) The department of health shall prepare an annual report that shall contain the
15 department's findings, analysis, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the data
16 generated by and from the permanent air-quality monitors (the "monitors"), as well as a summary
17 of the data collected from the monitors. The first such report shall be due on or before July 31,
18 2017, and on or before July 31 in 2018, 2019, and for any further year thereafter during which
19 data is collected and reported pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Copies
20 of these reports shall be provided by the required dates to the speaker of the house, the president
21 of the senate, the office of the governor, the office of the attorney general, [the airport corporation,](#)
22 and the offices of the mayor and the city council of the city of Warwick. [The department of](#)
23 [health, the airport corporation, and the city of Warwick shall publish these reports on their](#)
24 [respective websites within thirty \(30\) calendar days of receipt of the reports.](#)

25 **1-7-9. ~~Sunset provisions~~ Monitoring actions required and compliance -- Sunset**
26 **provision.**

27 (a) On or before January 31, 2017, and on or before January 31, 2018, and January 31,
28 2019, thereafter, the department of environmental management, the department of health, and the
29 attorney general shall submit to the governor, the speaker of the house, and the president of the
30 senate, recommendations as to the continuation of the air monitoring required in this act. ~~and,~~
31 ~~unless~~

32 (b) [Unless](#) extended by the general assembly, the corporation's obligation to operate and
33 maintain the air monitoring system will cease on ~~July 31, 2019.~~ [July 31, 2021; provided, this](#)
34 [sunset date shall be dependent upon the corporation undertaking and completing the following](#)

1 actions prior to July 31, 2021:

2 (1) As part of the long-term air quality monitoring program, ambient air-quality monitors
3 shall be set up in a network that shall include at least four (4) monitoring sites in the area of and
4 surrounding T. F. Green Airport. These monitors shall be designed, placed, and maintained so as
5 to measure air-quality impacts from airport operations, including those impacts associated with
6 planes operating on the extended runway and on neighborhoods adjacent to the airport facility,
7 and at the Winslow Park playing fields. In addition to the quarterly summary reports prepared by
8 the corporation based on this data, the corporation shall compile at least twenty (20) months of
9 complete air quality monitoring data from these monitors and submit that data to the department
10 of health prior to May 1, 2021, pursuant to § 1-7-6; and

11 (2) The corporation shall comply with all other reporting and publishing requirements set
12 forth in this chapter.

13 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 AERONAUTICS -- THE PERMANENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING ACT

1 This act would extend the required air quality monitoring program at T. F. Green Airport
2 for two (2) years to July 31, 2021. The act would also provide the sunset provision for the air
3 quality monitoring program would be dependent upon the airport corporation undertaking certain
4 specific actions regarding the collection and reporting of air quality data from monitors set up
5 around the airport.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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