

2020 -- H 7544

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LC004469
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Shanley, Knight, and Barros

Date Introduced: February 12, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 13-6 entitled "Loss of
2 Rights by Prisoners" is hereby repealed.

3 ~~**13-6-1. Life prisoners deemed civilly dead.**~~

4 ~~Every person imprisoned in the adult correctional institutions for life shall, with respect~~
5 ~~to all rights of property, to the bond of matrimony and to all civil rights and relations of any~~
6 ~~nature whatsoever, be deemed to be dead in all respects, as if his or her natural death had taken~~
7 ~~place at the time of conviction. However, the bond of matrimony shall not be dissolved, nor shall~~
8 ~~the rights to property or other rights of the husband or wife of the imprisoned person be~~
9 ~~terminated or impaired, except on the entry of a lawfully obtained decree for divorce.~~

10 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 CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1 This act would repeal the provision of the general laws declaring prisoners serving a life
2 sentence civilly dead.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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