

2014 -- H 7816

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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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL  
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, Giarrusso, Chippendale, Costa, and Nunes

Date Introduced: March 04, 2014

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 42 of the General Laws entitled "STATE AFFAIRS AND  
2 GOVERNMENT" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 155

4 RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

5 42-155-1. Legislative findings. -- For decades, private industry has been utilizing  
6 continuous improvement tools in order to make their operations more efficient and effective.  
7 These improvement tools have been a critical and important component for successfully  
8 competing in the global economy. Unfortunately, the concept of continuous improvement has  
9 largely been absent from municipal governmental operations, however, during the past few years,  
10 governors, and state departments and agencies across the country have begun implementing  
11 improvement tools in the workforce. As a result, inefficient governmental operating systems have  
12 been streamlined, workforce effectiveness has been enhanced and improved customer service has  
13 been provided to constituents.

14 Continuous improvement must become part of the governmental culture, and the program  
15 established by this chapter is an attempt to encourage state leaders, and agency and departmental  
16 leaders to learn and utilize tools of process development and improvement in order to improve  
17 and enhance governmental services for the residents of Rhode Island.

18 42-155-2. ~~Rhode Island Performance Excellence Program.~~ Rhode Island

1 **Municipal Performance Management Program.** -- (a) There shall be established a Rhode  
2 Island Municipal Performance Management Program ("Program") to be administered and funded  
3 by the department of administration. The purpose of the Program is to advance the use of  
4 techniques, tools, and processes of performance management with the goal of improving the  
5 effective and efficient use of resources and the delivery of services.

6 (b) A committee shall be established in connection with the program provided from the  
7 Rhode Island chapter of the American Society for Quality ("ASQ"), in order to establish the  
8 parameters and guidelines for the Program.

9 (c) The Program shall create, among other things, training guides, seminars and an annual  
10 project award in connection with workforce effectiveness and efficiency in the government  
11 workplace. All projects shall be judged using the guidelines for public service process  
12 certification as published by the ASQ, and shall provide for monetary awards as established by  
13 the ASQ.

14 (d) The department of administration shall fund eight (8) six (6) month scholarships to a  
15 maximum amount of ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000). Scholarship recipients shall be  
16 chosen by lottery from interested municipalities. Scholarship winners who continue in the  
17 program after the first six (6) months shall be subsidized for one-half (1/2) of the cost of the  
18 program for a maximum amount of forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000).

19 (e) The department shall also fund a second scholarship year under the same terms as set  
20 forth in subsection (d) of this section.

21 (f) The department shall report the results and effectiveness of the program to the general  
22 assembly within six (6) months after the end of the second scholarship year.

23 (g) The scholarship recipients will be given the use of a consultant and materials. This  
24 consultant will work collaboratively with the municipal staff on projects involving performance  
25 management processes. Processes shall include data collection, data-driven analysis, decision-  
26 making, use of statistical measurement and control, and best practices and continuous  
27 improvement techniques.

28 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 STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL  
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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1           This act would establish the Rhode Island Municipal Performance Management Program  
2           which would be funded by the department of administration with the goal of improving the  
3           delivery of services in the government sector. The act would also require the funding of a  
4           scholarship program to accomplish the goals set forth in the act.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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