

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LICENSURE STREAMLINING IN THE TOWN OF WARREN

Introduced By: Senator Walter S. Felag

Date Introduced: May 30, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

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

3 **45-2-31.5. Town of Warren – Delegation of local licensing authority.**

4 In the town of Warren, the town council is authorized to provide, by ordinance, for the
5 administrative issuance and renewal of all licenses the council is authorized to issue pursuant to
6 this title or any other section of the general laws, with the exception of licenses that require their
7 issuance or renewal after a public hearing, and provided that all applications and licenses shall
8 meet the requirements and conditions set forth in applicable provisions of the general laws.

9 SECTION 2. Section 45-2-31.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-2 entitled "General
10 Powers" is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 **45-2-31.2. Business registration fee -- Town of Warren.**

12 (a) All wholesale, retail, commercial, professional service or manufacturing businesses,
13 whether by sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations or any business entity, shall register
14 their business, company, trade or office situated in the town of Warren with the town clerk of the
15 town of Warren. Each registration shall contain the name of the firm or business, the name of the
16 owner(s) or operator(s) of the firm or business, the type of business to be conducted, and other
17 basic information.

18 (b) There shall be a fee for each registration. The registration fee shall be set by town

1 council ordinance.

2 (c) Upon registration of a business, a registration certificate shall be issued to the
3 registrant. No other business of the same trade name shall be allowed to register once a certificate
4 of registration has been issued without the approval of the prior registrant in writing. Every
5 registration certificate shall expire the 31st day in December and shall be renewed annually upon
6 payment of the required fee. No certificate shall be renewed if the business fails to provide proof
7 from the tax collector that all municipal taxes have been paid to date. Every certificate of
8 registration shall be placed in a conspicuous location in each business establishment.

9 (d) Any business required to obtain a liquor, victualling or any other license to operate
10 under any other section of the general laws shall be exempt from ~~the requirement of~~ [paying the](#)
11 [fee required by](#) this statute.

12 (e) Any person, whether as principal, agent, employee, or otherwise, who violates any of
13 the provisions of this chapter, shall be fined not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per day for
14 each offense. Any fine imposed under this statute and/or the ordinance promulgated by the town
15 council pursuant to this section may be appealed to the Warren municipal court. The fines shall
16 inure to the town and each day that the violation continues shall be deemed to constitute a
17 separate offense.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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WARREN

1 This act would permit the town of Warren to exempt license holders from the town's
2 business registration fee and to allow the Warren town council to delegate the power to grant the
3 issuance and renewal of certain licenses administratively.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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