

2014 -- S 2732

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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 PROPERTY -- MUSEUM PROPERTY ACT

Introduced By: Senator M. Teresa Paiva Weed

Date Introduced: March 05, 2014

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

(Secretary of State)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 34-44.1-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 34-44.1 entitled "The
2 Rhode Island Museum Property Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **34-44.1-1. Definitions.** -- As used in this chapter, the following words and terms shall
4 have the following meanings, unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:

5 (1) "Museum" means an organized and permanent nonprofit or public institution in
6 Rhode Island operated by, or a division of, of nonprofit corporation, trust, association,
7 educational institution or public agency, which is primarily educational, scientific, historic or
8 aesthetic in purpose, and which owns, borrows, cares for, studies, archives or exhibits property.
9 Museums may include, but not be limited to, historical societies, parks, historic sites and
10 monuments, archives and libraries;

11 (2) "Property" means any tangible object in the possession of and under a museum's care
12 that has intrinsic educational, scientific, historical, artistic, aesthetic or cultural value, excluding
13 the property of any agency or public body as defined in § 38-1-1.1;

14 (3) "Loan" or "loaned" means a deposit with a museum that:

15 (i) Title to the property is not transferred to the museum,

16 (ii) The loan agreement for such deposit does not include a provision that the museum
17 acquire title at some time after such deposit is made; or

18 (iii) The loan agreement for such deposit includes an option for the museum to acquire
19 title at some time after such deposit is made;

1 (4) "Lender" means a person (an individual, association, partnership, corporation, trust,
2 estate, or other entity, [excluding the property of any agency or public body as defined in § 38-1-](#)
3 [1.1](#)) whose name appears on the records of a museum as the person legally entitled to, or claiming
4 to be legally entitled to, property held by the museum or, if such person is deceased, the legal
5 heirs of such person.

6 (5) "Undocumented property" means property under a museum's care, [excluding the](#)
7 [property of any agency or public body as defined in § 38-1-1.1](#) whose ownership cannot be
8 determined by reference to the museum's records, and for which the museum does not have a
9 reasonable means of determining the owner.

10 (6) "Publication" means inclusion in the online publication of lists of abandoned
11 property established pursuant to section 33-21.1-18.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would exclude the property of any agency or public body from the provisions of
- 2 "The Rhode Island Museum Property Act."
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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