

2021 -- H 5633

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LC001495
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ORDINANCES

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, Tanzi, Ruggiero, Kislak, Carson, Speakman,
Ajello, Kazarian, Donovan, and Fogarty

Date Introduced: February 19, 2021

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-6 entitled "Ordinances" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-6-1. Scope of ordinances permissible.**

4 (a) Town and city councils may, from time to time, make and ordain all ordinances and
5 regulations for their respective towns and cities, not repugnant to law, which they deem necessary
6 for the safety of their inhabitants from fire, firearms, and fireworks; [to regulate the use and sale of](#)
7 [cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems;](#) to prevent persons
8 standing on any footwalk, sidewalk, doorstep, or in any doorway, or riding, driving, fastening, or
9 leaving any horse or other animal or any carriage, team, or other vehicle on any footwalk, sidewalk,
10 doorstep, or doorway within the town or city, to the obstruction, hindrance, delay, disturbance, or
11 annoyance of passersby or of persons residing or doing business in this vicinity; to regulate the
12 putting up and maintenance of telegraph and other wires and their appurtenances; to prevent the
13 indecent exposure of any one bathing in any of the waters within their respective towns and cities;
14 against breakers of the Sabbath; against habitual drunkenness; respecting the purchase and sale of
15 merchandise or commodities within their respective towns and cities; to protect burial grounds and
16 the graves in these burial grounds from trespassers; and, generally, all other ordinances, regulations
17 and bylaws for the well ordering, managing, and directing of the prudential affairs and police of
18 their respective towns and cities, not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this state, or of the
19 United States.

1 (b) Town and city councils shall furnish to their senators and representatives, upon request
2 and at no charge, copies and updates of all ordinances and regulations.

3 (c) In lieu of newspaper publication, advance notice of proposed adoption, amendment, or
4 repeal of any ordinance or regulation by a municipality may be provided via electronic media on a
5 website maintained by the office of the secretary of state.

6 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 allow cities and towns to create ordinances to regulate the use and sales of
- 2 cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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