

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section § 42-35-2.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, following is a concise explanatory statement:

**AGENCY:** Department of State

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 100-RICR-30-00-3

**RULE TITLE:** One-Day Marriage Officiant Certification

**REASON FOR RULEMAKING:** This Part is proposed to implement the One-Day Marriage Officiant Certification program as authorized by R.I. Gen. Laws § 15-3-5.

**TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS:** During the public comment period, the Department received one comment which was in support of the program as described in the proposed adoption. No changes were suggested and no responsive changes were made.

**CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE:** The Department has not made any substantive changes to the text of the rule as proposed.

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:** The societal cost for implementation of this program is minimal. The One-Day Marriage Officiant Certification program allows couples who wish to marry within the State of Rhode Island to be joined in marriage by any adult person not otherwise empowered to perform such a ceremony. The authority to designate the authority to solemnize a marriage on a specific date and in a specific place formerly rested with the General Assembly. This new program vastly expands access by allowing the Governor's office to designate authority to solemnize a marriage year-round to any qualified person for a nominal statutory fee.