

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Title of Rule: One-Day Marriage Officiant Certification

Rule Identifier: 100-RICR-30-00-3

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Adoption

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 10/01/2021

Hearing Date: 10/27/2021

End of Public Comment: 11/01/2021

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 15-3-5

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

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

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed adoption until November 1, 2021 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Kristen Cordeiro
Department of State
148 W River Street
Providence, RI 02904
kcordeiro@sos.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, to consider the proposed adoption shall be held on October 27, 2021 at 3:00 pm at State Library, 82 Smith Street, Room 208, Providence, RI 02903 at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-437-4130 or RI Relay

711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

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.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.