

2008 -- H 8360 AS AMENDED

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LC03073

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2008

A N A C T

RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Rice, Lima, Gallison, Jackson, and Coaty

Date Introduced: June 11, 2008

Referred To: House Constituent Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 WHEREAS, Throughout the centuries, dedications and memorials have served as tributes
2 to prominent heroes who have woven the rich fabric of an area or people's history; and

3 WHEREAS, Anne Hutchinson is just such a laudable individual. In many ways, she was
4 a "Founding Mother" of the State of Rhode Island and of this great nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Anne Hutchinson came to Rhode Island, as did Roger Williams, to escape
6 religious bigotry and persecution. She helped to shape the tradition of free speech and religious
7 tolerance that is fundamental to modern America, and she dared to have a public voice during a
8 time when women, and their role in daily life, was defined by their husbands; and

9 WHEREAS, To date, Rhode Island's only public tribute to Anne Hutchinson is a small
10 plaque on Boyd's Lane in Portsmouth. In addition, the Rhode Island Department of
11 Transportation has stated that no bridges in Rhode Island are named after women; and

12 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island, as well as the majority of states across the
13 country, uphold the tradition of naming structures such as roads, bridges and edifices after
14 renowned individuals and there is overwhelming support for renaming the Sakonnet River Bridge
15 the "Anne Hutchinson Bridge."

16 SECTION 1. Chapter 22-7.4 of the General Laws entitled "Permanent Joint Committee
17 on Naming All New Buildings, Bridges, Edifices and Other State Constructions" is hereby
18 amended by adding thereto the following section:

19 **22-7.4-98. Anne Hutchinson Skonnet Bridge.** -- [Rhode Island Bridge No. 250, which](#)

1 carries Route 24 over the Sakonnet River between the towns of Portsmouth and Tiverton,
2 previously known, as the new Sakonnet Bridge, shall hereafter be named and known as the "Anne
3 Hutchinson Sakonnet Bridge."

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO RENAMING THE NEW SAKONNET BRIDGE, AQUIDNECK ISLAND

- 1 This act would name the new Sakonnet Bridge as the "Anne Hutchinson Bridge."
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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