

2023 -- H 5423

LC001158

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Introduced By: Representatives J. Lombardi, Hull, Ajello, Cruz, and Stewart

Date Introduced: February 08, 2023

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-3.1-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-3.1 entitled
2 "Cooperative Service Among School Districts [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board
3 of Education Act]" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **16-3.1-11. Urban collaborative.**

5 ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, the school~~
6 ~~committees of the cities of Providence, Pawtucket, East Providence, Central Falls~~ The Urban
7 Collaborative shall be governed by a board of trustees; with the exception of those powers and
8 duties reserved by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, the board of
9 education, and the school committees of Providence and other Rhode Island school districts as may
10 be approved for inclusion by existing member districts in accordance with collaborative bylaws are
11 authorized and empowered to continue and/or initiate cooperative efforts to provide alternate
12 education programs and/or diagnostic services required by law or regulation for students achieving
13 limited success in traditional settings and to do all things necessary including, but not limited to
14 utilization of technology, including television, all on a collaborative basis. The various school
15 committees may assign and delegate to their respective school committee chairs or designee or
16 superintendents of schools or designee, acting as a regional board any duties, responsibilities, and
17 powers that the committees may deem necessary for the conduct, administration, and management
18 of the urban collaborative. Beginning on July 1, 2013 the urban collaborative shall be funded
19 pursuant to the provisions of § 16-7.2-3. The state share of the permanent foundation education

1 aid shall be paid directly to the urban collaborative pursuant to the provisions of § 16-7.2-7. The
2 local school district shall transfer the difference between the calculated state share of the permanent
3 foundation education aid and the amount calculated pursuant to the provisions of § 16-7.2-7 to the
4 urban collaborative, until the transition of the state share is complete. In addition, the local school
5 district shall pay the local share of education funding to the urban collaborative as outlined in §
6 16-7.2-5.

7 The urban collaborative shall be eligible to receive other aids, grants, Medicaid revenue,
8 and any other revenue according to Rhode Island law, as though it were a school district. Federal
9 aid received by the state shall be used to benefit students in the urban collaborative, if the school
10 qualifies for the aid, as though it were a school district.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO EDUCATION -- COOPERATIVE SERVICE AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS

1 This act would amend the composition of the Urban Collaborative and provide that the
2 collaborative be governed by a board of trustees.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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