

**2015 -- H 5532**

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LC001625  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015**

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**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

**CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE  
CONSOLIDATION OF MUNICIPAL AND EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONS ON A COUNTY  
AND/OR STATEWIDE BASIS**

Introduced By: Representatives Costantino, Marshall, Lima, Winfield, and Hull

Date Introduced: February 25, 2015

Referred To: House Municipal Government

1           RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created  
2 consisting of seventeen (17) members: five (5) of whom shall be members of the House of  
3 Representatives, not more than three (3) from the same political party, to be appointed by the  
4 Speaker of the House; three (3) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not more than two (2)  
5 from the same political party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall  
6 be the President of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, or designee; one of whom shall  
7 be the President of the Rhode Island Association of School Committees, or designee; one of  
8 whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Association of Administrators, or designee; one  
9 of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Federation of  
10 Teachers, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the  
11 National Education Association, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode  
12 Island Independent School Association, or designee; two (2) of whom shall be members of the  
13 general public, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one of whom  
14 shall be appointed by the President of the Senate; and one of whom shall be the Commissioner of  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education, or designee.

16           In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory  
17 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly  
18 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu  
19 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which

1 is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

2 The purpose of said commission shall be to study all aspects of consolidating municipal  
3 government and public education functions in order to determine if any services can be  
4 consolidated on a county and/or statewide basis in order to obtain a positive impact upon state  
5 and local finances and to make recommendations with respect thereto.

6 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at  
7 the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate and organize and shall select,  
8 from among the legislators, a chairperson. Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like  
9 manner as the original appointment.

10 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

11 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,  
12 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or  
13 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

14 The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide  
15 suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the  
17 General Assembly no later than March 2, 2016 and said commission shall expire on June 2, 2016.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
JOINT RESOLUTION  
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE  
CONSOLIDATION OF MUNICIPAL AND EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONS ON A COUNTY  
AND/OR STATEWIDE BASIS

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1           This resolution would create a seventeen (17) member special legislative commission  
2 whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of all aspects of consolidating  
3 municipal government and public education functions in order to determine if any services can be  
4 consolidated on a county and/or statewide basis, and who would report back to the general  
5 assembly no later than March 2, 2016 and whose life would expire on June 2, 2016.

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