

2010 -- S 2261

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS
ACT

Introduced By: Senators Pichardo, Jabour, DiPalma, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended
2 by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 91

4 THE COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

5 **16-91-1. Short title.** -- This act shall be known and may be cited as "The College and
6 Career Success For All Students Act."

7 **16-91-2. Purpose.** -- The purpose of this chapter shall be to ensure that each Rhode
8 Island student has a sufficient education for success after high school and that all students have
9 equal access to a substantive and rigorous curriculum that is designed to challenge their minds,
10 enhance their knowledge and skills, and prepare them for success in college and work.

11 **16-91-3. Definitions.** -- As used in this chapter:

12 (1) "Advanced Placement course" means a course sponsored by the college board and
13 offered for college credit at the high school level.

14 (2) "Advanced Placement teacher" means a teacher of an advanced placement course.

15 (3) "Pre-Advanced Placement" means set professional development resources and
16 services that equip all middle and high school teachers with the strategies and tools they need to
17 engage their students in active, high-level learning, thereby ensuring that every middle and high
18 school student develops the skills, habits of mind, and concepts they need to succeed in advanced

1 placement courses.

2 (4) "Board of regents" means the board of regents for elementary and secondary
3 education.

4 (5) "Vertical team" means a group of teachers and educators from different grade levels
5 in a given discipline who work cooperatively to develop and implement a vertically aligned
6 program aimed at helping students from diverse backgrounds acquire the academic skills
7 necessary for success in advanced placement courses and other challenging courses.

8 **16-91-4. Teacher training.** -- (a) Subject to appropriation, a teacher of an advanced
9 placement course must obtain appropriate training. Subject to appropriation, the state board of
10 education shall establish clear, specific, and challenging training guidelines that require teachers
11 of advanced placement courses to obtain recognized advanced placement training endorsed by the
12 college board.

13 (b) Advanced placement and pre-advanced placement training to teachers in Rhode
14 Island high schools must do all of the following:

15 (1) Provide teachers of advanced placement and teachers in courses that lead to advanced
16 placement with the necessary content knowledge and instructional skills to prepare students for
17 success in advanced placement courses and examinations and other advanced course
18 examinations and mastery of postsecondary course content.

19 (2) Provide administrators, including principals and counselors, with professional
20 development that will be enable them to create strong and effective advanced placement
21 programs in their schools.

22 (3) Provide middle grade, junior high, and high school teachers with advanced placement
23 vertical team training and other pre-advanced placement professional development that prepares
24 students for success in advanced placement courses.

25 (4) Support the implementation of an instructional program for students in grades 6
26 through 12 that provides an integrated set of instructional materials, diagnostic assessments, and
27 teacher professional development in reading, writing, and mathematics that prepares all students
28 for enrollment and success in advanced placement courses and in college.

29 **16-91-5. Duties of the state board of regents.** -- (a) In order to fulfill the purposes of
30 this act, the state board of regents shall encourage school districts to offer rigorous courses in
31 grades 6 through 11 that prepare students for the demands of advanced placement course work.
32 The state board of regents shall also encourage school districts to make it a goal that all 10th
33 graders take the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholars Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) so
34 that test results will provide each high school with a database of student assessment data that

1 guidance counselors and teachers will be able to use to identify students who are prepared or who
2 need additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful in advanced placement courses,
3 using a research-based advanced placement identification program provided by the college board.

4 (b) The state board of regents shall do all of the following:

5 (1) Seek federal funding through the advanced placement incentive program and the
6 Math-Science partnership program and use it to support advanced placement and pre-advanced
7 placement teacher professional development and to support the implementation of an integrated
8 instructional program for students in grades 6 through 12 in reading, writing, and mathematics
9 that prepares all students for enrollment and success in advanced placement courses and in
10 college.

11 (2) Focus state and federal funding with the intent to carry-out activities that target school
12 districts serving high concentrations of low-income students.

13 (3) Subject to appropriation, provide a plan of communication that includes, without
14 limitation, disseminating to parents materials that emphasize the importance of advanced
15 placement or other advanced courses to a student's ability to gain access to, and to succeed in,
16 postsecondary education and materials that emphasize the importance of the SAT/National Merit
17 Scholars Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which provides diagnostic feedback on skills and
18 relates students' scores to the probability of success in advanced placement courses and
19 examinations, and disseminating this information to students, teachers, counselors,
20 administrators, school districts, public community colleges, and state universities.

21 (4) Subject to appropriation, annually evaluate the impact of this act on rates of student
22 enrollment and success in advanced placement courses, on high school graduation rates, and on
23 college enrollment rates.

24 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 EDUCATION - COLLEGE AND CAREER SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS
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- 1 This act would require the establishment of clear training guidelines for teachers who will
- 2 teach advanced placement classes in Rhode Island public schools.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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