

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT [SEE TITLE
16 CHAPTER 97 -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT

Introduced By: Senators Zurier, Murray, Cano, Quezada, Picard, Bissaillon, Ciccone, and
Pearson

Date Introduced: March 01, 2024

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-7-20 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7 entitled "Foundation
2 Level School Support [See Title 16 Chapter 97 — The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is
3 hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **16-7-20. Determination of state's share.**

5 (a) For each community the state's share shall be computed as follows: Let

6 R = state share ratio for the community.

7 v = adjusted equalized weighted assessed valuation for the community, as
8 defined in § 16-7-21(3).

9 V = sum of the values of v for all communities.

10 m = average daily membership of pupils in the community as defined in § 16-
11 7-22.

12 M = total average daily membership of pupils in the state.

13 f = [foundation budget of pupils in the community as defined in §16-7.2-3.](#)

14 F = [foundation budget of all pupils in the state as defined in §16-7.2-3.](#)

15 E = approved reimbursable expenditures for the community for the reference
16 year minus the excess costs of special education, tuitions, federal and state receipts, and other
17 income.

18 Then the state share entitlement for the community shall be RE where

1 $R = 1 - 0.5vM/(Vm)$ through June 30, 2011, and $R = 1 - 0.475 vM/(Vm)$ beginning on
2 July 1, 2011 [through June 30, 2024](#) and
3 [R = 1-0.475 vF/\(Vf\) beginning July 1, 2024 and](#) thereafter.

4 Except that in no case shall R be less than zero percent (0%).

5 (b) Whenever any funds are appropriated for educational purposes, the funds shall be used
6 for educational purposes only and all state funds appropriated for educational purposes must be
7 used to supplement any and all money allocated by a city or town for educational purposes and in
8 no event shall state funds be used to supplant, directly or indirectly, any money allocated by a city
9 or town for educational purposes. The courts of this state shall enforce this section by writ of
10 mandamus.

11 (c) Notwithstanding the calculations in subsection (a), the hospital school at the Hasbro
12 Children's Hospital shall be reimbursed one hundred percent (100%) of all expenditures approved
13 by the council on elementary and secondary education in accordance with currently existing rules
14 and regulations for administering state aid, and subject to annual appropriations by the general
15 assembly including, but not limited to, expenditures for educational personnel, supplies, and
16 materials in the prior fiscal year.

17 (d) In the event the computation of the state's share for any local education agency as
18 outlined in subsection (a) is determined to have been calculated incorrectly after the state budget
19 for that fiscal year has been enacted, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall
20 notify affected local education agencies, the senate president, and the speaker of the house within
21 fifteen (15) days of the determination.

22 (e) Realignment of aid payments to the affected local education agencies pursuant to
23 subsection (d) shall occur in the following fiscal year:

24 (1) If the determination shows aid is underpaid to the local education agency, any amounts
25 owed shall be paid in equal monthly installments.

26 (2) If the determination shows aid was overpaid, the department of elementary and
27 secondary education shall recapture some amount of the aid from the overpaid local education
28 agency. The amount to be withheld shall be equal to the amount of the overpayment prorated to the
29 number of full months remaining in the fiscal year when the notification required in subsection (d)
30 was made.

31 (f) The above notwithstanding, in no event shall the total paid to a local education agency
32 in the 2023 fiscal year pursuant to subsection (a) be reduced as a result of the implementation of
33 subsection (e); provided, however, that for the 2022 fiscal year, the full amount of any payment
34 due to an underpayment and realignment under subsection (e)(1) shall be made for fiscal year 2022.

1 (g) Data used for the calculation of the FY 2022 state share ratio shall also be used for the
2 calculation of the FY 2023 state share ratio.

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

=====
LC004829
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- FOUNDATION LEVEL SCHOOL SUPPORT [SEE TITLE
16 CHAPTER 97 -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT

- 1 This act would change the formula to determine the state's share of educational cost by
- 2 adding 3 new variables to the formula.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC004829
=====