

2026 -- H 7892

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LC005125  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM

Introduced By: Representatives Cotter, Kennedy, Chippendale, Spears, Casimiro, and Cruz

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 16-22 of the General Laws entitled "Curriculum [See Title 16  
2 Chapter 97 — the Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding thereto the  
3 following section:

4           **16-22-39. Firewise education program.**

5           (a) The department of elementary and secondary education shall, pursuant to rules and  
6 regulations promulgated by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, establish a  
7 comprehensive collaborative course of instruction that provides students with accurate information  
8 and instruction on risks of wildfires while creating an action plan to mitigate loss in case of a  
9 wildfire. The department shall, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner,  
10 utilize Firewise USA to create the basic education program requirement at all K-12 schools in the  
11 state.

12           (b) Upon written request to the school principal, a pupil not less than eighteen (18) years  
13 of age or a parent or legal guardian of a pupil less than eighteen (18) years of age, within a  
14 reasonable period of time after the request is made, shall be permitted to examine the curriculum  
15 program instruction materials at the school in which their child is enrolled.

16           (c) The department and the commissioner shall schedule the presentation of the program  
17 at the schools during any full week during March as an annual event.

1 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 -- CURRICULUM

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1           This act would require the development of a comprehensive collaborative course that  
2 would provide students with accurate information and instruction on risks of wildfires while  
3 creating an action plan to mitigate loss in case of a wildfire in all K-12 schools within the state.  
4 This course would be scheduled by the department of education during any full week during March  
5 annually.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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