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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- STAFFING

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, Coyne, Seveney, Felag, Cano, and Gallo

Date Introduced: February 10, 2021

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 16-73 of the General Laws entitled "Education - Social Services [See  
2 Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding  
3 thereto the following section:

4           **16-73-7. School social worker staffing.**

5           In grades kindergarten through twelve (12), each public school shall have assigned to it, at  
6 least one full-time social worker for every four hundred (400) students. For purposes of this section,  
7 "social worker" shall mean any person who holds a valid professional certificate in school social  
8 work issued by the state department of education.

9           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 -- STAFFING

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1           This act would require all public schools in grades kindergarten through twelve (12), to  
2 have at least one full-time certified school social worker for every four hundred (400) students.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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