

2022 -- S 2176

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SOCIAL SERVICES (SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97 --THE
RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT)--STAFFING

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

Date Introduced: February 08, 2022

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 (K-12), each public school shall have among its staff
6 at least one full-time social worker for every four hundred (400) students. For purposes of this
7 section, "social worker" shall mean any person who holds a valid professional certificate in school
8 social 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 -- SOCIAL SERVICES (SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97 --THE
RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT)--STAFFING

- 1 This act would require all public schools, in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-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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