LC01579

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION - EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ACT

<u>Introduced By:</u> Representatives MacBeth, Tomasso, McLaughlin, Menard, and Jacquard

<u>Date Introduced:</u> February 28, 2012

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended 1 2 by adding thereto the following chapter: 3 **CHAPTER 96** 4 **EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ACT** 5 <u>16-96-1. Short title.</u> This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Educational Resource Center Act." 6 7 <u>16-96-2. Educational resource center.</u> – (1) The department of education is authorized 8 to establish an educational resource center to serve as a source of information for families, 9 students, schools and professionals regarding neurological impairments such as autism, brain 10 injury and seizure disorders. The educational resource center shall, without limitation, serve as a 11 source of information to provide direct services, technical assistance, professional development 12 and support for any individual or organization that may come in contact with federal and state 13 services provided in connection with the foregoing; provide information regarding sources of 14 training; maintain contact with professional organizations, state agencies and departments, 15 educational institutions and other sources for training; and disseminate applicable information 16 such as changes in human services programs. 17 (2) The educational resource center shall be funded by the department of education and 18 shall operate independently of the department.

(3) The educational resource center may accept funding that includes, but is not limited

- 1 to, monetary contributions, contractual arrangements, in-kind services, federal and state
- 2 appropriated funds, private and public foundation grants and fees for services.
- 3 (4) The department of education shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to
- 4 <u>effectuate the purpose of this chapter.</u>
- 5 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION - EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ACT

This act would create the Educational Resource Center to provide informational resources to individuals and organizations regarding neurological impairments.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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