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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, DiPalma, Lanzi, DeVall, and Metts

Date Introduced: January 11, 2012

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-2-5.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-2 entitled "School
2 Committees and Superintendents" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **16-2-5.1. Professional development.** -- (a) The Rhode Island College in cooperation
4 with the [Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary education and the](#) Rhode Island
5 association of school committees shall develop a professional development educational program
6 for Rhode Island school committees, that will include instruction in labor and labor relations,
7 negotiating collective bargaining agreements, employee contract analysis, school finance, school
8 law; duties and responsibilities of the committee, duties and responsibilities of the superintendent,
9 ethics, the requirements of the open meetings law, student achievement, strategic planning,
10 educational standards, student assessment, school accountability, data interpretation and analysis,
11 collaboration building, advocacy, annual performance evaluation of the school superintendent and
12 the local school committee, and any other topics as the [Rhode Island department of elementary](#)
13 [and secondary education and/or the](#) Rhode Island association of school committees may deem to
14 be necessary. [Professional development courses shall be offered online as soon as practical by the](#)
15 [Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary education and/or the Rhode Island](#)
16 [association of school committees.](#)

17 (b) In conformity with section 16-60-4(15), the board of regents for elementary and
18 secondary education shall approve the professional development program and create a process for
19 recognizing school committee members that successfully complete the program in part or in

1 whole.

2 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 -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

1 This act would provide that the Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary
2 education would be included in developing the professional development educational program for
3 Rhode Island school committees required under current law. This act would also provide that
4 such courses would be offered online as soon as practical.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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