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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE RHODE ISLAND TEACHERS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Goodwin, Miller, and Lynch

Date Introduced: January 24, 2013

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended
2 by adding thereto the following chapter:

CHAPTER 102

THE RHODE ISLAND TEACHERS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

5 **16-102-1. Legislative purpose.** -- It is the purpose of the Rhode Island teachers' advisory
6 council to provide a streamlined communication mechanism between teachers and the state board
7 of education, the policy setting board of elementary and secondary education by:

8 (1) Providing teachers with the ability to inform policymakers about implementation,
9 concerns, and or practical issues regarding regulations and/or policies, whether proposed or
10 promulgated;

11 (2) Bringing voices of classroom teachers into the conversation about policies and
12 regulations which impact classroom activities; and

13 (3) Improving the conversation about the policies and regulations regarding our education
14 system to ensure their successful implementation that benefits all Rhode Island students.

15 **16-102-2. Rhode Island Teachers' Advisory Council established.** -- (a) There is hereby
16 established a Rhode Island teachers' advisory council, hereinafter referred to as "RITAC," that
17 shall advise the board of regents for elementary and secondary education and/or the state board of
18 education, whichever body is in effect at the time. RITAC shall be comprised of one teacher
19 from each school district chosen by the districts' state association of teacher representatives, such

1 as the national education association and the Rhode Island federation of teachers and health
2 professionals, in conjunction with the local district teacher representative in a manner that they
3 deem appropriate. The Rhode Island league of charter schools shall choose two (2) teachers from
4 its public charter schools in a manner that it deems appropriate. The Rhode Island mayoral
5 academies shall choose one teacher from its mayoral academies in a manner that it deems
6 appropriate. The term of each teacher representative shall be two (2) years. Each representative
7 shall be chosen within ninety (90) days of passage and by October 1 every two (2) years
8 thereafter. Upon organization, the members of RITAC shall elect a chairperson and any other
9 officers.

10 (b) RITAC shall meet no less than four (4) times per year and provide the board of
11 regents for elementary and secondary education and/or the state board of education, whichever
12 board is in effect, with a minimum of quarterly reports at a regularly scheduled board meeting.

13 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 - THE RHODE ISLAND TEACHERS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 1 This act would establish the Rhode Island Teachers' Advisory Council.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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