

**2014 -- H 7255 SUBSTITUTE A**

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LC003085/SUB A  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014**

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**J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

**RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
TO REQUIRE ALL RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO SUBMIT EACH  
DISTRICT'S MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Introduced By: Representatives Phillips, Casey, McNamara, Shekarchi, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: January 30, 2014

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

1           WHEREAS, In 1999, in his State of the Union Address, former President Clinton stated  
2 "No child should graduate from high school with a diploma he or she can't read"; and

3           WHEREAS, Allowing students to pass from grade to grade, and particularly to graduate  
4 high school, without mastering the basic material and skills necessary to progress to a career or  
5 higher education is flawed and misguided; and

6           WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the people of this state to end so-called "social  
7 promotion," and to raise the bar on graduation requirements to meet rigorous academic standards  
8 and increase work skills so that our young people will be prepared to compete in an ever-evolving  
9 global workforce; and

10           WHEREAS, A high school diploma must have consistency and value in the real world;  
11 now, therefore be it

12           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence  
13 Plantations hereby respectfully requests the Rhode Island Department of Education to require all  
14 Rhode Island school districts to submit each district's minimum high school graduation  
15 requirements on or before December 1, 2014, and to submit a consolidated report to the General  
16 Assembly on or before January 31, 2015; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
2 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Commissioner of Elementary  
3 and Secondary Education.

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