

2015 -- H 6105

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- MAYORAL ACADEMIES

Introduced By: Representatives O'Grady, Fogarty, Amore, Regunberg, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: April 17, 2015

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 16-77.4-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-77.4 entitled  
2 "Mayoral Academies [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is  
3 hereby amended to read as follows:

4           **16-77.4-5. Budgets and funding.** -- (a) It is the intent of the general assembly that  
5 funding pursuant to this chapter shall be neither a financial incentive nor a financial disincentive  
6 to the establishment of a mayoral academy. Funding for each mayoral academy shall consist of  
7 state revenue and municipal or district revenue in the same proportions that funding is provided  
8 for other schools within the sending school district(s).

9           (b) The amount of funding which shall be allocated to the mayoral academy by the  
10 sending school district(s) shall be equal to a percentage of the total budgeted expenses of the  
11 sending school district(s) which is determined by dividing the number of students enrolled in the  
12 mayoral academy by the total resident average daily number of students in the sending school  
13 district(s).

14           (c)(1) Funding additional to that authorized from the sending school district(s) by  
15 subsection (b) may be allocated to the mayoral academy from the sending school district(s) to the  
16 extent that the combined percentage of students eligible for free or reduced cost lunch, students  
17 with limited English proficiency, and students requiring special education exceed the combined  
18 percentage of those students in the sending school district(s) as a whole. The commissioner shall  
19 promulgate rules and regulations consistent with this section regarding the allocation of funds

1 from sending school districts to mayoral academies.

2 (2) Funding levels below those authorized from the sending school district(s) provided  
3 for under subsection (b) of this section may be allocated to the mayoral academy from the  
4 sending school district(s) to the extent that the combined percentage of students eligible for free  
5 or reduced cost lunch, students with limited English proficiency, and students requiring special  
6 education at the mayoral academy in question is less than the combined percentage of those  
7 students in the sending school district(s) as a whole. The commissioner shall promulgate rules  
8 and regulations consistent with this section regarding the allocation of funds from sending school  
9 district(s) to mayoral academies.

10 (d) A mayoral academy shall be eligible to receive other aids, grants, Medicaid revenue,  
11 and other revenue according to Rhode Island law, as though it were a school district. Federal aid  
12 received by the state shall be used to benefit students in a mayoral academy, if the school  
13 qualifies for the aid, as though it were a school district.

14 (e) A mayoral academy may negotiate and contract directly with third parties for the  
15 purchase of books, instructional materials, and any other goods and services which are not being  
16 provided by the sending school district(s) pursuant to the charter.

17 (f) Any career/technical charter public school enrolling special education students from  
18 outside school districts with verifiable individual education program (IEP) designations shall  
19 receive from the sending school district(s) the average per pupil special education cost of the  
20 sending district(s), in accordance with standards established by the Rhode Island department of  
21 elementary and secondary education.

22 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 -- MAYORAL ACADEMIES

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1           This act would modify the funding levels for mayoral academies in the event that the  
2 combined percentage of students eligible for free or reduced cost lunch, students with limited  
3 English proficiency, and students requiring special education attending the mayoral academy in  
4 question is less than the combined percentage of those students in the sending school district as a  
5 whole.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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