

2016 -- H 7926

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LC004658  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF  
ACT

Introduced By: Representatives O'Grady, Fogarty, Amore, Tanzi, and Barros

Date Introduced: March 10, 2016

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 16-7.2-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7.2 entitled "The  
2 Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:  
3           **16-7.2-5. Charter public schools, the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical**  
4 **High School, and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center.** -- (a) Charter  
5 public schools defined in chapter 77 of this title, the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical  
6 High School (Davies) and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center (the Met  
7 Center) shall be funded pursuant to § 16-7.2-3. If the October 1 actual enrollment data for any  
8 charter public school shows a ten percent (10%) or greater change from the prior year enrollment  
9 which is used as the reference year average daily membership, the third and fourth quarter  
10 payments to the charter public school will be adjusted to reflect actual enrollment. The state share  
11 of the permanent foundation education aid shall be paid by the state directly to the charter public  
12 schools, Davies, and the Met Center pursuant to § 16-7.2-9 and shall be calculated using the state  
13 share ratio of the district of residence of the student as set forth in § 16-7.2-4. The department of  
14 elementary and secondary education shall provide the general assembly with the calculation of  
15 the state share of permanent foundation education aid for charter public schools delineated by  
16 school district. The department shall also provide the general assembly a performance dashboard  
17 indicating the per-pupil expenditures of each school district and charter school broken down by  
18 revenue sources and expenditure categories. The department shall provide, within the same

1 dashboard, student performance indicators for each school district or charter school. The local  
2 share of education funding, as defined by the department of elementary and secondary education  
3 and approved by the General Assembly, shall be paid to the charter public school, Davies, and the  
4 Met Center by the district of residence of the student and shall be the local per-pupil cost  
5 calculated by dividing the local appropriation to education from property taxes, net of debt  
6 service, [charter tuitions](#) and capital projects, as defined in the uniform chart of accounts by the  
7 average daily membership for each city and town, pursuant to § 16-7-22, for the reference year.

8 (b) Local district payments to charter public schools, Davies, and the Met Center for  
9 each district's students enrolled in these schools shall be made on a quarterly basis in July,  
10 October, January and April; however, the first local district payment shall be made by August 15  
11 instead of July. Failure of the community to make the local district payment for its student(s)  
12 enrolled in a charter public school, Davies, and/or the Met Center may result in the withholding  
13 of state education aid pursuant to § 16-7-31.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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- 1            This act would add charter tuitions to the calculation used to determine local per-pupil
- 2 cost.
- 3            This act would take effect upon passage.

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