

2017 -- H 6324

LC002863

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CIVIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

Introduced By: Representatives Cunha, Shanley, Barros, and Tobon

Date Introduced: June 09, 2017

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 16-2.1-1 and 16-2.1-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-2.1  
2 entitled "Civic Education Commission" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **16-2.1-1. Civic education commission.**

4 There is hereby created a permanent commission to be known as the Rhode Island  
5 Permanent Commission on Civic Education to consist of ~~twenty-four (24)~~ twenty-one (21)  
6 members; three (3) of whom shall be from the house of representatives, not more than two (2)  
7 from the same political party, to be appointed by the speaker; three (3) of whom shall be from the  
8 senate, not more than two (2) from the same political party, to be appointed by the senate  
9 president; one of whom shall be the Rhode Island secretary of state, or designee; two (2) of whom  
10 shall be teachers or representatives of teachers, one of whom shall be a member of the National  
11 Education Association of Rhode Island, to be appointed by the speaker, and one of whom shall be  
12 a member of the American Federation of Teachers, to be appointed by the senate president; one  
13 of whom shall be a member of the Superintendent's Association, or Principal's Association, to be  
14 appointed by the speaker; one of whom shall be the director of the Rhode Island Historical  
15 Society, or designee; ~~one of whom shall be the Rhode Island state archivist, or designee;~~ one of  
16 whom shall be the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or designee; one of  
17 whom shall be the commissioner of postsecondary education, or designee; ~~one of whom shall be~~  
18 ~~the director of legislative press and public information bureau, or designee;~~ one of whom shall be  
19 from the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, to be appointed by the speaker; one of whom shall

1 be from the [Dorcas](#) International Institute of Rhode Island to be appointed by the senate  
2 president; ~~and one of whom shall be a school librarian/media specialist to be appointed by the~~  
3 ~~speaker~~; one of whom shall be a teacher at a parochial/private school institution to be appointed  
4 by the speaker; one of whom shall be the director of museum and program at the Rhode Island  
5 Heritage Harbor ~~Museum~~ [Foundation](#), or designee; one of whom shall be the director of Rhode  
6 Island ~~Committee~~ [Council](#) for the Humanities, or designee; one of whom shall be the director of  
7 the Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy, or designee; one of whom shall be  
8 the director of the ~~Rhode Island Latino Civic Fund~~ [Progreso Latino](#), or designee; ~~and one of~~  
9 ~~whom shall be the executive director of the Civics First Organization, or designee~~; and one of  
10 whom shall be the director of the Center for Civic Education, or designee.

11 **16-2.1-2. Powers and duties.**

12 (a) The commission is empowered to appoint committees to study specialized areas of  
13 concern and to report their findings and recommendations to the commission; provided, however,  
14 that one of these committees shall be a Rhode Island history committee.

15 (b) All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish advice and information,  
16 documentary and otherwise, to the commission and its agents as may be necessary or desirable to  
17 facilitate the purposes of this chapter.

18 (c) The commission shall report its findings and/or recommendations to the speaker of  
19 the house of representatives, the senate ~~majority leader~~ [president](#), and the ~~commission~~  
20 [commissioner](#) of elementary and secondary education.

21 (d) ~~Nine (9)~~ [Eight \(8\)](#) members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

22 (e) The commission shall meet at least ~~four (4)~~ [two \(2\)](#) times per year.

23 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 -- CIVIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

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1           This act would alter the membership, reporting protocol, and meeting requirements of the  
2 civic education commission.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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