

2018 -- H 7987

LC005131

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM [SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97 -- THE  
RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT]

Introduced By: Representatives O'Brien, Handy, Vella-Wilkinson, Lima, and Corvese

Date Introduced: March 22, 2018

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-22-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-22 entitled "Curriculum  
2 [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended to read  
3 as follows:

4 **16-22-4. Instruction in health and physical education.**

5 (a) All children in grades one through twelve (12) attending public schools, or any other  
6 schools managed and controlled by the state, shall receive in those schools instruction in health  
7 and physical education under rules and regulations the department of elementary and secondary  
8 education may prescribe or approve during periods that shall average at least twenty (20) minutes  
9 in each school day. No private school or private instruction shall be approved by any school  
10 committee for the purposes of chapter 19 of this title as substantially equivalent to that required  
11 by law of a child attending a public school in the same city and/or town unless instruction in  
12 health and physical education similar to that required in public schools shall be given.  
13 Commencing September 1, 2012, the required health education curriculum shall be based on the  
14 health education standards of the Rhode Island Health Education Framework: Health Literacy for  
15 All Students as promulgated by the Rhode Island department of education and consistent with the  
16 mandated health instructional outcomes therein. Commencing September 1, 2012, the required  
17 physical education curriculum shall be based on the physical education standards of the Rhode  
18 Island Physical Education Framework: Supporting Physically Active Lifestyles through Quality

1 Physical Education as promulgated by the Rhode Island department of education and consistent  
2 with the instructional outcomes therein.

3 (b) The department of elementary and secondary education shall ~~consider~~ incorporate, in  
4 consultation with the state department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and  
5 hospitals, ~~the incorporation of~~ substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention into the health  
6 education curriculum. For the purpose of this section, "substance abuse prevention" means the  
7 implementation of evidence-based, age appropriate programs, practices, or curricula related to the  
8 use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; "suicide prevention" means the  
9 implementation of evidence-based appropriate programs, practices, or curricula related to mental  
10 health awareness and suicide prevention.

11 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 -- CURRICULUM [SEE TITLE 16 CHAPTER 97 -- THE  
RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT]

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- 1           This act would require, rather than suggest, that the department of elementary and  
2 secondary education incorporate substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention into the  
3 health education curriculum.  
4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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