

2019 -- H 6099

LC002575

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS

Introduced By: Representatives Caldwell, Diaz, Noret, Morin, and Knight

Date Introduced: May 10, 2019

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-11 of the General Laws entitled "Certification of Teachers [See  
2 Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding  
3 thereto the following section:

4 **16-11-9. New evaluation requirements.**

5 (a) On or before July 1, 2020, the council on elementary and secondary education shall  
6 implement an assessment and evaluation system that applies to both teachers and administrators,  
7 and is aligned with the state's standards.

8 (b) The system shall be designed to promote growth and development, place student  
9 learning at the center, recognize excellence, set a high bar for professional teacher status, and  
10 shorten timelines for improvement. The system shall include, but is not limited to, the following  
11 five (5) steps:

12 (1) Self-assessment;

13 (2) Goal setting and plan development;

14 (3) Plan implementation;

15 (4) Formative assessment/evaluation; and

16 (5) Summative evaluation.

17 (c) As part of the assessment and evaluation system, the council shall develop model  
18 scoring tools, or "rubrics", that describe characteristics of practice at different levels of  
19 performance and encompass the roles and responsibilities across all educators including, but not

1 limited to, superintendents, school-level administrators, classroom teachers, and specialized  
2 instructional support personnel. The rubrics shall be designed to help educators and evaluators:  
3 (1) Develop a consistent, shared understanding of what proficient performance looks like  
4 in practice;  
5 (2) Develop a common terminology and structure to organize evidence;  
6 (3) Discuss and agree upon certain skills and behaviors that may be high priorities  
7 according to that educator's role and responsibilities, as well as to their professional practice and  
8 student learning needs; and  
9 (4) Make informed professional judgments about performance ratings based on each of  
10 the Rhode Island professional educator standards pursuant to 200-RICR-20-20-1.3.  
11 (d) The rubrics shall:  
12 (1) Describe teaching practice;  
13 (2) Be designed to be applicable to general education teachers from pre-K through  
14 Advanced Placement, as well as teachers with specialized classes or knowledge, including  
15 teachers of English language learners, and special education teachers.  
16 (e) On or before September 1, 2020, local education agencies (LEAs) shall adopt the  
17 model assessment and evaluation system described in this section for use in their schools.  
18 However, an LEA may revise existing local evaluation systems to be comparably rigorous and  
19 comprehensive as set forth herein with the approval from the board of education to be in  
20 compliance with this section.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS

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1           This act would direct the council on elementary and secondary education to implement a  
2 teacher assessment and evaluation system which emphasizes the alignment of instruction  
3 delivered to the state's standards.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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