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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL-TO-CAREER TRANSITION  
ACT OF 1996

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, DiPalma, and Seveney

Date Introduced: February 18, 2021

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-80 of the General Laws entitled "Rhode Island School-to-Career  
2 Transition Act of 1996" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-80-4.1. Individual career and academic plan for grades six through twelve (6-12).**

4 (a) As used in this section, "individual career and academic plan (ICAP)" means an  
5 individualized plan developed by the student and the student's parent or legal guardian, in  
6 collaboration with their school counselors, school administrators, teachers and other school  
7 personnel. This individualized career and academic plan is to be used to help establish personalized  
8 academic and career goals, explore postsecondary career and opportunities, including, but not  
9 limited to, military careers, apprenticeship programs, career and technology programs leading to  
10 certification or licensure, and educational opportunities, align coursework and curriculum, apply to  
11 postsecondary institutions, secure financial aid and ultimately enter the workforce.

12 (b) The board of education (the "board") shall adopt a new statewide system of college and  
13 career planning tools, which shall be known as the "individual career and academic plan (ICAP)".

14 (c) The board shall work cooperatively with school districts to incorporate the ICAP into  
15 graduation requirements.

16 (1) Beginning with students entering the sixth grade in the 2024-2025 school year, each  
17 student shall be required to complete the process of an ICAP in order to graduate from a public  
18 high school with a standard diploma. Each year thereafter, students shall annually update their

1 ICAP. The ICAP shall include, but not be limited to:

2 (i) Career- and college-interest surveys;

3 (ii) Written postsecondary and workforce goals and information on progress toward these  
4 goals;

5 (iii) Intentional sequence of courses that reflect progress toward the postsecondary goals;

6 (iv) The student's academic progress, including courses taken, assessment scores, any  
7 remediation or credit recovery and any advanced placement, dual enrollment credits earned and/or  
8 career certificate(s), certification(s), or endorsements; and

9 (v) Experience in service learning and/or work environment activities.

10 (2) The ICAP system shall be implemented according to the following schedule:

11 (i) For the 2022-2023 school year, the department of elementary and secondary education  
12 (the "department") shall work with, but not limited to, school districts, the office of postsecondary  
13 education, and the department of labor and training, to develop individual career academic planning  
14 tools for students in grades six through twelve (6-12);

15 (ii) For the 2023-2024 school year, the department shall incorporate the ICAP as set forth  
16 in subsection (c)(1) of this section, on a pilot program basis; and

17 (iii) For the 2024-2025 school year, and each school year thereafter, school districts shall  
18 fully incorporate and put into operation the ICAP, pursuant to this section, for all students entering  
19 the sixth grade.

20 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a district from implementing the  
21 ICAP for students in earlier grades.

22 (4) ICAPs for students with disabilities, as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities  
23 Education Act (IDEA), P.L. No. 105-17, shall take into account and work in cooperation with the  
24 student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan as defined by the  
25 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, P.L. No. 93-112.

26 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL-TO-CAREER TRANSITION  
ACT OF 1996

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1           This act would implement an individual career and academic plan as a graduation  
2 requirement for each student enrolled in public schools in the sixth through twelfth grade, starting  
3 with students entering the sixth grade in the 2024-2025 school year.

4           This act would take effect on January 1, 2022.

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