

2021 -- S 0577

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LC002355  
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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

Introduced By: Senators Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Calkin, Anderson, Murray, Pearson,  
Miller, Euer, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: March 11, 2021

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended by  
2 adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 110

4 THE RHODE ISLAND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT IN AFTERSCHOOL AND OUT-OF-

5 SCHOOL TIME ACT

6 **16-110-1. Short title.**

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as "The Rhode Island Quality Enhancement in  
8 Afterschool and Out-of-School Time Act".

9 **16-110-2. Purpose.**

10 The purpose of this chapter is to provide funding to support comprehensive and effective  
11 afterschool, summer learning and workforce development programming for students in grades  
12 kindergarten through twelve (K-12).

13 **16-110-3. Funding.**

14 (a) The general assembly shall allocate no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per  
15 fiscal year to invest in:

16 (1) High-quality afterschool and out-of-school ("OST") programs and instructors;

17 (2) Quality outcomes and professional development; and

18 (3) Workforce development and funding for a pipeline of high-quality youth development  
19 professionals.

1           (b) Recipients of funding may include nonprofit organizations, local governments,  
2 universities and local education authorities.

3           **16-110-4. Department of education.**

4           (a) The Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary education shall create a  
5 competitive request for proposals process to allocate funding for each fiscal year.

6           (b) Only programs that adhere to the Rhode Island afterschool quality standards and  
7 indicators may be funded.

8           (c) Applicants shall detail funds received from all public sources for existing afterschool,  
9 summer learning and workforce development programs and the types of students and programs  
10 served by the funds.

11           (d) Priority shall be given to those programs that seek to support:

12           (1) Low-income families, youth with disabilities, youth for whom English is a second  
13 language, and youth and families who have challenges with access to services; and

14           (2) That offer youth a broad array of additional services, programs, counseling programs,  
15 art, music and recreation programs, technology education programs and character education  
16 programs, that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic programs for  
17 participating youth.

18           (e) The department of education shall consult with the department of human services to  
19 maximize the provision of services and coordinate programs and services for youth during  
20 programs funded by this chapter.

21           **16-110-5. Reporting.**

22           The department of elementary and secondary education shall report back to the general  
23 assembly and the governor no later than December 31 of each year on the status and progress of  
24 the program authorized by this chapter.

25           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

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1           This act would provide two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to support comprehensive and  
2 effective afterschool, summer learning and workforce development programs for students in grades  
3 kindergarten through twelve (K-12).

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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