

2022 -- H 7118

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTS AND
IMPACT THAT HYBRID AND VIRTUAL LEARNING EMPLOYED DURING THE
PANDEMIC HAS HAD ON THE ACHIEVEMENT RATES OF CHILDREN IN
KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12TH GRADE

Introduced By: Representatives Casimiro, Noret, Shallcross Smith, Donovan, Solomon,
C Lima, McNamara, Cortvriend, Potter, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: January 20, 2022

Referred To: House Education

1 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
2 consisting of fifteen (15) members: five (5) of whom shall be members of the House of
3 Representatives, one of whom shall be the Chair of the House Committee on Education, or
4 designee, and three (3) of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one of
5 whom shall be appointed by the Majority Leader; one of whom shall be the President of the
6 Rhode Island Association of School Committees, or designee; one of whom shall be the President
7 of the Rhode Island Association of Administrators, or designee; one of whom shall be the
8 President of the Rhode Island Association of Administrators of Special Education, or designee;
9 one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Federation of
10 Teachers, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Chapter of the
11 National Education Association, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode
12 Island Independent School Association, or designee; three (3) of whom shall be members of the
13 general public, one of whom shall be the parent of a child in a Rhode Island elementary school,
14 one of whom shall be a parent of a child attending a Rhode Island Junior High School, and one of
15 whom shall be a parent of a child in a Rhode Island High School, to be appointed by the Speaker
16 of the House; and one of whom shall be the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary
17 Education, or designee.

18 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory

1 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly
2 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
3 of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which
4 is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

5 The purpose of said commission shall be to study the impact and effects that virtual and
6 hybrid learning has had on the achievement rates of children in kindergarten through 12th grade
7 due to the pandemic, and to outline steps and make recommendations to identify gaps and
8 establish plans to address such issues with respect thereto.

9 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
10 the call of the Speaker of the House and organize, and shall select from among the legislators, a
11 chairperson. Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original
12 appointment.

13 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

14 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
15 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
16 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

17 The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters
18 for said commission; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
20 House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2023, and said commission shall expire on
21 March 30, 2023.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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PANDEMIC HAS HAD ON THE ACHIEVEMENT RATES OF CHILDREN IN
KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12TH GRADE

1 This resolution would create a fifteen (15) member special legislative commission whose
2 purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study on the effects and impact of hybrid and
3 virtual learning on the achievement rates of children in grades K-12th, and provide
4 recommendations to identify gaps and establish plans to address such issues, and who would
5 report back to the House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2023, and whose life would
6 expire on March 30, 2023.

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