

**2026 -- H 7421**

=====

LC003604

=====

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026**

---

**A N A C T**

**RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATE AID**

Introduced By: Representatives Paplauskas, Hopkins, Nardone, Fascia, Place, Newberry, Chippendale, Roberts, Noret, and J. Brien

Date Introduced: January 30, 2026

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1        SECTION 1. Section 45-13-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-13 entitled "State Aid" is  
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3        **45-13-9. Reimbursement to cities and towns and school districts for the costs of state**  
4 **mandates.**

5        (a)(1) The department of revenue shall submit to the budget office by October 1 of each  
6 year, a report by each city and town, of the cost of state mandates established after January 1, 1979,  
7 to be reimbursed for the next preceding July 1 — June 30 period.

8        (2) The budget office shall annually include the statewide total of the statement of costs of  
9 state mandates eligible to be reimbursed in the state budget for the next fiscal year for consideration  
10 by the governor in preparing a final budget proposal for submission to the general assembly in  
11 accordance with § 35-3-7 of the General Laws; provided, that any costs resulting from the rules  
12 and regulations of state departments or agencies shall be allocated to the budgets of those  
13 departments or agencies.

14        (b) The state treasurer shall in July of each year distribute to cities and towns the  
15 reimbursements for state mandated costs as ~~may~~ shall be appropriated by the general assembly.

16        (c) The department of revenue shall publish a report, in collaboration with local education  
17 agencies (LEAs), identifying costs borne by school districts that are partially funded or unfunded.  
18 The report shall be provided to the general assembly, offices of the speaker of the house, the senate  
19 president, and the governor, for consideration when preparing the final budget proposal to be

1    submitted to the general assembly. The report shall be accessible to the public and published on the  
2    state transparency portal.

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

=====

LC003604

=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- STATE AID

\*\*\*

- 1        This act would increase transparency provisions and require reporting of the partially funded and unfunded school district costs.
- 2        This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC003604  
=====