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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE EDUCATION EQUITY AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF  
ACT

Introduced By: Senators Algieri, and Cool Rumsey

Date Introduced: January 16, 2013

Referred To: Senate Education

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 16-7.2-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-7.2 entitled "The  
2 Education Equity and Property Tax Relief Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:  
3           **16-7.2-5. Charter public schools, the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical**  
4 **High School, and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center.** -- (a) Charter  
5 public schools defined in chapter 16-77, the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High  
6 School (Davies) and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center (the Met Center)  
7 shall be funded pursuant to section 16-7.2-3. If the October 1 actual enrollment data for any  
8 charter public school shows a ten percent (10%) or greater change from the prior year enrollment  
9 which is used as the reference year average daily membership, the third and fourth quarter  
10 payments to the charter public school will be adjusted to reflect actual enrollment. The state share  
11 of the permanent foundation education aid shall be paid by the state directly to the charter public  
12 schools, Davies, and the Met Center pursuant to section 16-7.2-9 and shall be calculated using the  
13 state share ratio of the district of residence of the student as set forth in section 16-7.2-4. The  
14 local share of education funding, as defined by the department of elementary and secondary  
15 education and approved by the General Assembly, shall be paid to the charter public school,  
16 Davies, and the Met Center by the district of residence of the student and shall be the local per  
17 pupil cost calculated by dividing the local appropriation to education from property taxes net of  
18 debt service and capital projects as defined in the uniform chart of accounts by the average daily

1 membership for each city and town, pursuant to section 16-7-22, for the reference year. The  
2 district of residence shall be responsible for the local share only when the school classification, as  
3 determined by the formula specified in the Rhode Island accountability system, of the charter  
4 public school and the Met Center is higher than that of the student's comparable district school of  
5 enrollment.

6 (b) Local district payments to charter public schools, Davies, and the Met Center for  
7 each district's students enrolled in these schools shall be made on a quarterly basis in July,  
8 October, January and April; however, the first local district payment shall be made by August 15  
9 instead of July. Failure of the community to make the local district payment for its student(s)  
10 enrolled in a charter public school, Davies, and/or the Met Center may result in the withholding  
11 of state education aid pursuant to section 16-7-31.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would ensure that students, and the funds appropriated by the state for local pupil  
2 costs, will go to charter public schools and to the Met Center only when said schools are  
3 performing at a higher level than the traditional schools in the student's district of residence.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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