

2018 -- H 7938

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LC005176  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATED TO EDUCATION - MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS [SEE TITLE 16  
CHAPTER 97 - THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT]

Introduced By: Representatives O'Brien, Marshall, Corvese, Lima, and McKiernan

Date Introduced: March 09, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-52-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-52 entitled  
2 "Maintenance of Order on Campus [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of  
3 Education Act]" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **16-52-2. Appointment of campus police.**

5 (a) The board of ~~governors for higher~~ education may appoint one or more persons who  
6 may act as police officers upon the property and highways of state colleges and universities  
7 subject to the control of the board. The campus police officers shall protect the property of each  
8 college or university, suppress nuisances and disturbances and breaches of the peace, and enforce  
9 laws and regulations for the preservation of good order. They shall have the same powers and  
10 authority as that conferred upon municipal police officers, including the power to arrest persons  
11 for violations of state criminal statutes or for violations of city or town ordinances of the city or  
12 town in which the institution is located. They shall ~~not~~ carry firearms ~~unless expressly authorized~~  
13 ~~by the board of governors~~ subject to the training requirements of this section. Additionally, any  
14 campus police officer observing the violation of any rule or regulation of the board adopted  
15 pursuant to this chapter, including but not limited to parking and traffic regulations, may issue a  
16 summons in the manner and form set forth in § 31-27-12 or § 31-41.1-1 returnable to the district  
17 court, the police court of the city or town where the violation occurs, or the traffic tribunal as  
18 provided by law.

1 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all fines and penalties recovered for  
2 violation of rules and regulations made under authority of this section shall be accounted for by  
3 the appropriate authority, which shall forward all fines or penalties for nonmoving traffic  
4 violations to the general treasurer for use by the college or university on whose campus the  
5 citation or violation was issued in accordance with § 16-32-27.

6 (c) Campus police and peace officers shall, prior to October 1, 2018, complete a course of  
7 firearm instruction as provided by the Rhode Island police officers commission on standards and  
8 training, with approval of the commissioner of public safety and shall be subject to in service  
9 training requirements of chapter 28 of title 42 and the standardized training requirements of § 42-  
10 28.2-8.3.

11 (d) The board of education shall adopt rules and regulations for the purposes of  
12 implementing the provisions of this chapter.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATED TO EDUCATION - MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS [SEE TITLE 16  
CHAPTER 97 - THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT]

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- 1 This act would mandate arming campus police at public higher educational institutions.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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