

2021 -- H 5233

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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 -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, McNamara, Slater, Vella-Wilkinson, Alzate, Felix,  
Ajello, and Tobon

Date Introduced: January 29, 2021

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-21 of the General Laws entitled "Health and Safety of Pupils" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-21-37. Students' bill of rights.**

4 No pupil attending public schools of elementary through high school grades inclusive of  
5 kindergarten shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national  
6 origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status or mental,  
7 physical, developmental, or sensory disability, or by association with an individual or group who  
8 has, or is perceived to have, one or more such characteristics.

9 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 -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

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1           This act would provide students attending public schools enrolled in grades K-12 with a  
2 students' bill of rights prohibiting discrimination based on race, sex, gender, economic status or  
3 mental, physical, developmental or sensory disabilities.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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