

2023 -- S 0181

LC001201

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE NATHAN BRUNO AND JASON FLATT ACT

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, Lawson, Euer, Valverde, Gallo, Murray, Lauria,
Ujifusa, and Gu

Date Introduced: February 16, 2023

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The title of Chapter 16-21.7 of the General Laws entitled "The Nathan Bruno
2 and Jason Flatt Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~CHAPTER 16-21.7~~

4 ~~The Nathan Bruno and Jason Flatt Act~~

5 CHAPTER 16-21.7

6 THE NATHAN BRUNO, JASON FLATT, AND ALICIA BIROS BEREAVEMENT ACT

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 16-21.7 of the General Laws entitled "The Nathan Bruno and Jason
8 Flatt Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

9 **16-21.7-5. Flexible schools schedule to be implemented upon death of student or**
10 **educator.**

11 In the event of a tragic death of an educator or a student within a local educational agency
12 (LEA), the LEAs shall be given up to five (5) days after the death to implement a flexible school
13 schedule for teachers and students. Within that time, an LEA crisis team shall determine the proper
14 need of those days, which may include, but is not limited to, attending funerals, training staff to
15 support grieving students, days of mourning, and staff working directly with the students that have
16 been affected by the death. Schools shall not be required to make up the grief days at the end of the
17 school year.

1 SECTION 3. 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 -- THE NATHAN BRUNO AND JASON FLATT ACT

1 This act would provide that in the event of the death of an educator or a student, a local
2 educational agency would be given up to five (5) days after the death to implement a flexible school
3 schedule for teachers and students. This act would also amend the title of chapter 16-21.7 to "The
4 Nathan Bruno, Jason Flatt, and Alicia Biros Bereavement Act."

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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