

LC01105

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2005

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, and Slater

Date Introduced: March 08, 2005

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-59 of the General Laws entitled "Board of Governors for Higher
2 Education" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-59-9.2. Tuition and fees for undocumented immigrants.** – (a) All tuition or fee
4 schedules in effect at the Rhode Island public institutions of higher education shall provide that
5 the payment of tuition and fees by any student who is an undocumented immigrant and is not a
6 resident of the state of Rhode Island, other than a non-immigrant alien within the meaning of
7 paragraph (15) of subsection (a) of section 1101 of title 8 of the United States Code, shall be paid
8 at a rate or charge no greater than that imposed on students who are residents of this state,
9 provided that such student:

10 (1) has attended an approved Rhode Island High School for three (3) or more years; or

11 (2) has graduated from an approved Rhode Island high school or received a high school
12 equivalency diploma from the state of Rhode Island; or

13 (3) has registered as an entering student or is currently enrolled, in an accredited public
14 institution of higher education in Rhode Island not earlier than the fall semester or quarter of the
15 2003-2004 academic year; or

16 (4) has filed an affidavit with the public institution of higher education stating that such
17 student has filed an application to legalize his or her immigration status, or will file such
18 application as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.

19 (b) For purposes of this section, "resident" shall mean a person who has resided in this

1 state for a period of at least one (1) year and in the county, city, town, or school district, as the
2 case may be, for a period of at least six (6) months prior to registration at a public institution of
3 higher education.

4 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 allow undocumented immigrants who meet certain criteria to pay tuition
- 2 and fees at public higher educational institutions that are no greater than the tuition and fees paid
- 3 by Rhode Island residents.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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