

2016 -- S 2693 SUBSTITUTE A

LC004748/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOLS ACT [SEE TITLE 16  
CHAPTER 97 -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT]

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Satchell, and Miller

Date Introduced: March 08, 2016

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 16-95-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-95 entitled "The  
2   Recovery High Schools Act [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education  
3   Act]" is hereby amended to read as follows:  
4           **16-95-4. Transfer of aid.** -- (a) Any school district in Rhode Island that may have a  
5   student or students who are currently or were last enrolled in said district and who are ~~considered~~  
6   ~~by the sending district to be both clinically and academically appropriate for referral~~ diagnosed  
7   with substance use disorder or dependency, as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual  
8   Of Mental Disorders IV-TR ~~to a Rhode Island recovery high school~~ may be referred to a Rhode  
9   Island recovery high school by a clinician licensed pursuant to chapter 35 of title 42 for voluntary  
10   enrollment in such school. If said student is admitted to said school, the sending school district  
11   shall ensure that payment pursuant to subsection (b) herein for students who attend the recovery  
12   high school is paid, and further, that upon completion of all other graduation requirements, said  
13   student or students shall receive a diploma.  
14           (b) A sending school district shall transfer the per pupil ~~allotment it receives~~ core  
15   instructional amount pursuant to chapter 16-7.2 ("The Education Equity and Property Tax Relief  
16   Act") to a recovery high school for any student attending the recovery high school and meeting  
17   the following criteria: (1) The student is currently enrolled in the district or currently resides in  
18   the municipality in which the district is located; and (2) The student is considered by a clinician

1 licensed pursuant to 42-35, to be clinically appropriate, using the criteria for substance use  
2 disorders as defined in the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders IV-TR~~;~~ ~~and (3)~~  
3 ~~The~~ If a student meets all matriculation criteria as outlined by the sending district and the  
4 department of elementary and secondary education, with determination of academic eligibility  
5 based on existing documentation provided by the district. ~~The~~ the district and the recovery high  
6 school shall arrange to confer a diploma when a student completes state and district-mandated  
7 graduation requirements. ~~The local share of education funding shall be paid to the recovery high~~  
8 ~~school in the same manner as the local share of education funding is paid to charter public~~  
9 ~~schools, the William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School, and the Metropolitan~~  
10 ~~Regional Career and Technical Center, as outlined in § 16-7.2-5.~~

11 (c) A recovery high school shall submit to the ~~board of regents~~ council on elementary  
12 and secondary education academic data considered necessary by the board to provide information  
13 regarding each student's academic performance, subject to applicable health confidentiality laws  
14 and regulations.

15 (d) The ~~board of regents~~ council on elementary and secondary education, in consultation  
16 with the department of behavioral health, developmental disabilities and hospitals shall  
17 promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to implement and carry out the intent of this  
18 chapter.

19 (e) Subject to appropriations, each recovery high school shall receive no less than five  
20 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year from the state for administration and programmatic  
21 costs.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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- This act would allow students who are diagnosed with substance use disorder or dependency to be referred to a Rhode Island recovery high school by a licensed clinician. Subject to appropriations, this act would direct no less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year from the state for administration and programmatic costs at each recovery high school.
- This act would take effect upon passage.

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