

2021 -- S 0455

LC002248

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Introduced By: Senators de la Cruz, Rogers, Paolino, and Raptakis

Date Introduced: March 04, 2021

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 16 of the General Laws entitled "EDUCATION" is hereby amended by  
2 adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 7.3

4 EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS PROGRAM

5 **16-7.3-1. Education savings accounts program established.**

6 (a) Upon request to the Rhode Island department of education of any parent, guardian or  
7 caretaker of a student enrolled in any school district in the state, the school district shall establish,  
8 in any form as such school district deems appropriate, an education savings account program. The  
9 purpose of the program shall be to assist and support the parents, guardians and caretakers of each  
10 student in the school district with the materials, tutors, technology and other educational support  
11 for any student learning at home or at any other remote-learning site.

12 (b) Each education savings account shall be maintained in a restricted receipt savings  
13 account and shall be managed by the parent(s), guardian(s), or caretaker(s) of the student.

14 (c) The Rhode Island department of education shall determine the available per pupil cost  
15 of the school district to the existing students of the school district. Said per pupil cost shall be set  
16 aside by the school district in the restricted receipt savings account established for each student of  
17 the school district entitled to an education savings account.

18 (d) The parent(s), guardian(s), or caretaker(s) of each student for whom an education  
19 savings account is established may contribute additional monies to such account.

1           (e) For state income tax purposes, the amount contributed and the annual earnings  
2 therefrom contributed to an education savings account by a parent, guardian or caretaker shall be  
3 exempt from the state income tax and shall not be includible in the Rhode Island personal income  
4 tax of the parent, guardian or caretaker making the contribution to the education savings account.

5           (f) The parent(s), guardian(s), or caretaker(s) of any student with an education savings  
6 account shall be entitled to utilize, at their sole discretion, any funds in the education savings  
7 account established for the student for tutoring, technology, supplies and any other learning support  
8 measures or materials.

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

=====  
LC002248  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO EDUCATION

\*\*\*

1           This act would establish an education savings account program to assist and support the  
2 parents, guardians and caretakers of students in any school district of the state with the materials,  
3 tutors, technology and other educational support for any student learning at home or at any other  
4 remote-learning site.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC002248  
=====