

2021 -- S 0933

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, Bell, Quezada, and Mack

Date Introduced: May 25, 2021

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-2-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-2 entitled "School
2 Committees and Superintendents [See Title 16 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education
3 Act]" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **16-2-5. Composition of city or town school committees -- Election and terms of**
5 **members -- Vacancies.**

6 The school committee of each city or town shall consist of three (3) residents of the city or
7 town, or of any number as at the present time constitute the committee. In cities or towns having
8 annual elections of city or town officers the committee shall be divided as equally as may be into
9 three (3) classes whose several terms of office shall expire at the end of three (3) years from the
10 dates of their respective elections. In cities or towns having biennial elections the committee shall
11 be divided as equally as may be into two (2) classes whose several terms of office shall expire at
12 the end of four (4) years from the dates of their respective elections. [In cities or towns having](#)
13 [quadrennial elections the committees' terms of office shall expire on their cities' and towns' election](#)
14 [days and in choosing them, the vote shall be taken for the whole number of members of the](#)
15 [committee at the same time.](#) As the office of each class shall become vacant, the vacancy or
16 vacancies shall be filled by the city or town at its regular city or town meeting for the election of
17 state or city or town officers, or by the city or town council at its next meeting after this. In case of
18 a vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise than as is provided in this section, the vacancy shall
19 be filled by the city or town council until the next regular city or town meeting for the election of

1 state or city or town officers, when it shall be filled for the unexpired term as is provided in this
2 section. This section shall not apply to the ~~cities of Providence, Central Falls, Woonsocket, or the~~
3 ~~Town of North Smithfield~~ [city of Central Falls](#).

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 require that for cities and towns holding elections every four (4) years, the
2 terms of the members of the school committee would expire on election day and the vote would be
3 taken for the whole number of members on the same date, except for the city of Central Falls.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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