

2023 -- H 6128 SUBSTITUTE A

LC002209/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Casimiro, Cortvriend, Messier, and Bennett

Date Introduced: March 06, 2023

Referred To: House Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-97 of the General Laws entitled "The Rhode Island Board of
2 Education Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-97-11. American Rescue Plan fiscal accountability and transparency.**

4 (a) The board of education and council on elementary and secondary education shall
5 require all school districts and local education agencies to report on a standardized form each fiscal
6 year, relating to any and all of the American Rescue Plan, elementary and secondary school
7 emergency relief, and state and local recovery funds, the following information:

8 (1) Amounts received;

9 (2) Amounts allocated with project/program description;

10 (3) Amounts spent on hiring staff;

11 (4) Job titles hired or retained with aforesaid funds;

12 (5) Premium pay amount issued to employees and type of employees compensated;

13 (6) Total amount of funds not spent and remaining, if any; and

14 (7) Copies of all progress reports submitted to federal government agencies concerning the
15 use of "ESSER III" proceeds.

16 (b) Said reports shall be published on the department of education's website for public
17 inspection and review.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 44-35 of the General Laws entitled "Property Tax and Fiscal
19 Disclosure — Municipal Budgets" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

1 **44-35-11. American rescue plan fiscal accountability and transparency.**

2 (a) All cities and towns shall provide to the division of municipal finance a report on a
3 standardized form each fiscal year, any and all of the American Rescue Plan funds received through
4 the "local fiscal recovery fund" program including the following information:

- 5 (1) Amounts received;
6 (2) Amounts allocated with project/program description;
7 (3) Amounts spent on hiring staff;
8 (4) Job titles hired or retained with aforesaid funds;
9 (5) Premium pay amount issued to employees and type of employees compensated;
10 (6) Total amount of funds not spent and remaining, if any; and
11 (7) Copies of all progress reports submitted to federal government agencies concerning the
12 use of "local fiscal recovery fund" proceeds.

13 (b) Said reports shall be published on the division of municipal finance's website for public
14 inspection and review.

15 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO EDUCATION -- THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACT

1 This act would require every school district, local education agency, city and town to report
2 each fiscal year relating to funding, administrative and program information from the American
3 Rescue plan, elementary and secondary school emergency relief, and state and local recovery funds.
4 The school district reports would be published on the department of education website and city and
5 town reports on the division of municipal finance website.

6 This act would take effect on July 1, 2023.

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