

2024 -- H 7020 SUBSTITUTE A

LC003352/SUB A/2

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPARENCY IN ARTS EDUCATION ACCESS AND
PROFICIENCY ACT

Introduced By: Representatives J. Brien, Baginski, Craven, Corvese, Casimiro, Noret,
Newberry, and Finkelman

Date Introduced: January 05, 2024

Referred To: House 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 114

4 TRANSPARENCY IN ARTS EDUCATION ACCESS AND PROFICIENCY ACT

5 **16-114-1. Short title.**

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Transparency in Arts Education Access
7 and Proficiency Act."

8 **16-114-2. Definitions and Findings.**

9 As used in this chapter:

10 (1) "Arts" means instruction, classes, courses, or organized school-based performance in
11 dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts. The term "arts" shall also include fine arts,
12 including painting, sculpture, architecture, music, and poetry.

13 (2) "Department" means the Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary
14 education.

15 (3) "School" means a public middle or high school.

16 (4) "TAEAPA" means transparency in arts education access and proficiency act
17 ("TAEAPA").

18 **16-114-3. Proficiency in arts education.**

1 (a) Commencing with the 2025-26 academic school year, the department shall include, on
2 each school's annual school report card, each school's percentage of students enrolled in arts
3 education courses, as defined by the national core arts standards, along with the number of courses
4 available to students in each arts area, including, but not limited to, dance, media arts, music,
5 theater, and visual arts.

6 (b) Commencing with the 2025-26 fiscal year, the department may designate or assign a
7 qualified staff member to serve in the role of arts education curriculum coordinator. A primary
8 function of this coordinator would be to support schools and school districts in meeting the arts
9 education curricular and reporting requirements, as provided in this chapter, along with any other
10 arts education related tasks within the department.

11 (c) Commencing with the 2026-27 academic school year, the department shall annually
12 require each high school to provide a representative sample of graduated students' portfolios, that
13 demonstrate evidence of meeting proficiency in one of the arts, as defined by the national core arts
14 standards, or fine arts. The student portfolios shall include evidence of works developed via courses
15 within the regular school day.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- TRANSPARENCY IN ARTS EDUCATION ACCESS AND
PROFICIENCY ACT

1 This act would establish the Transparency in Arts Education Access and Proficiency Act
2 ("TAEAPA") and promote education in the arts at the middle and high school levels by requiring
3 each middle and high school to provide annual reports on the availability of, and percentage of
4 students enrolled in, arts education courses.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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