

LC02658/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2005

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, P Fogarty, C Levesque, Walaska, and Felag

Date Introduced: March 02, 2005

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-22-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-22 entitled
2 "Curriculum" is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 ~~**16-22-2. Courses in history and government. -- Civics education. -- A course of study**~~
4 ~~**on the principles of popular and representative government as enunciated in the Constitution of**~~
5 ~~**Rhode Island and the Constitution of the United States shall be taught in all the public schools of**~~
6 ~~**this state. The course of study shall be prescribed by the department of elementary and secondary**~~
7 ~~**education. Commencing with the fourth grade in elementary schools, instruction shall be given in**~~
8 ~~**the history and government of Rhode Island, and in every high school thorough instruction shall**~~
9 ~~**be given in the Constitution and government of Rhode Island and in the Constitution and**~~
10 ~~**government of the United States.**~~ The general assembly recognizes the importance of a citizenry
11 well educated in the principles of democracy as enunciated in the constitutions of the state of
12 Rhode Island and the United States. The general assembly directs the board of regents for
13 elementary and secondary education to develop and adopt a set of grade level standards K-12 in
14 civics education no later than August 31, 2007. These standards shall include, but not be limited
15 to, the history of the state of Rhode Island, representative government, the rights and duties of
16 actively engaged citizenship, and the principals of democracy. These civic education standards
17 shall be used in the public schools of this state beginning in kindergarten and continuing through
18 to and including grade 12. No private school or private instruction shall be approved for the
19 purposes of chapter 19 of this title unless the course of study shall make provision for instruction

1 substantially equivalent to that required by this chapter for public schools.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO EDUCATION -- CURRICULUM

- 1 This act would direct the board of regents for elementary and secondary education to
- 2 develop a curriculum in civics education.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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