

2021 -- H 6449

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LC003043
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

JOINT RESOLUTION

AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Caldwell, Ruggiero, Shallcross Smith, Cassar,
Casimiro, Messier, and Slater

Date Introduced: June 17, 2021

Referred To: House Health & Human Services

1 WHEREAS, The Permanent Legislative Commission on Child Care (the "Commission")
2 was established by a Joint Resolution in 1989 and has been meeting faithfully since that time to
3 develop and recommend policies and legislation that will provide for quality, affordable, and
4 accessible child care and early education services in Rhode Island; and

5 WHEREAS, Seventy-four percent of Rhode Island children under age six and seventy-
6 seven percent of Rhode Island children ages six to seventeen have all parents in the workforce;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Since the Commission was established, research has shown that
9 participating in high-quality early childhood programs supports children's learning and
10 development, can improve the trajectory of families' lives, and can close achievement gaps that
11 appear prior to kindergarten; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the permanent legislative commission on child care in Rhode Island
13 created by resolution No. 217 passed by the General Assembly at its January session, A.D. 1989,
14 and approved July 7, 1989, entitled "Joint Resolution Creating A Permanent Legislative
15 Commission On Child Care In Rhode Island" and as amended by resolution No. 219 passed by
16 the General Assembly at its January session, A.D. 1991, and approved June 20, 1991, entitled
17 "Joint Resolution In Amendment of The Joint Resolution Creating A Permanent Legislative
18 Commission On Child Care In Rhode Island" and as further amended by resolution No. 325
19 passed by the General Assembly at its January session, A.D. 1998, and approved by the General

1 Assembly on June 27, 1998, entitled "Joint Resolution Amending the Joint Resolution Creating a
2 Permanent Legislative Commission on Child Care in Rhode Island" and as further amended by
3 resolution No. 346 passed by the General Assembly at its January session, A.D. 2007, and
4 approved by the General Assembly on June 13, 2007, entitled "Joint Resolution Amending the
5 Joint Resolution Creating a Permanent Legislative Commission on Child Care In Rhode Island"
6 and as further amended by resolution No. 372 passed by the General Assembly at its January
7 session, A.D. 2010, and approved by the General Assembly on June 25, 2010, entitled "Joint
8 Resolution Amending the Joint Resolution Creating a Permanent Legislative Commission on
9 Child Care in Rhode Island" be and the same is hereby amended, as follows:

10 The purpose of the Commission shall be to review, develop, and recommend policies and
11 legislation to the General Assembly to ensure that Rhode Island has a network of child care and
12 early education services that are high-quality, affordable, accessible, and equitable and to plan for
13 the state's current and future needs for child care and early education services, including
14 expansion of pre-kindergarten.

15 The Commission shall consist of twenty-nine (29) members: five (5) of whom shall be
16 members of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, not more than four (4) from the same
17 political party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; three (3) of whom shall be members
18 of the Rhode Island Senate, not more than two (2) from the same political party, to be appointed
19 by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall be from the Rhode Island Department of
20 Human Services State Child Care Licensing Office, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House;
21 one of whom shall be from the Rhode Island Department of Human Services State Child Care
22 Subsidy Program, to be appointed by the Senate President; one of whom shall be the Child
23 Advocate of the State of Rhode Island, or designee; one of whom shall be the Commissioner of
24 the Rhode Island Department of Education, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive
25 Director of Beautiful Beginnings, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of
26 Connecting for Children and Families, or designee; one of whom shall be a representative from
27 Business Owners of Childcare Association (BOCA), to be appointed by the Speaker of the
28 House; one of whom shall be a representative from the State Alliance of YMCAs, to be appointed
29 by the Senate President; one of whom shall be a representative from the Rhode Island Childcare
30 Directors Association (RICCDA), to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom
31 shall be a representative from the RI Head Start Association, to be appointed by the Senate
32 President; one of whom shall be a representative from Family Child Care Homes of Rhode Island,
33 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be a representative from the
34 SEIU 1199 Family Care Providers Union, to be appointed by the Senate President; one of whom

1 shall be a representative from the Rhode Island Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, to be appointed
2 by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of Children’s Friend,
3 or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Parent Information
4 Network, Inc., or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of Rhode Island KIDS
5 COUNT, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director at The Economic Progress
6 Institute, or designee; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Rhode Island
7 Association for the Education of Young Children, or designee; one of whom shall be the Director
8 of the Institute of Early Childhood Teaching and Learning at Rhode Island College, or designee;
9 one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC
10 Rhode Island), or designee; and one of whom shall be the President and Chief Executive Officer
11 of the United Way of Rhode Island, or designee.

12 The Commission may be allotted an annual budget up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000)
13 via grant funding that will be subject to approval by the Speaker of The House and the President
14 of the Senate to support planning activities and costs associated with a biennial planning retreat
15 and annual Child Care and Early Education Awareness Day.

16 Membership in the Commission shall be reviewed and updated every two (2) years.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
AMENDING THE JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A PERMANENT LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE IN RHODE ISLAND

- 1 This resolution would amend the membership and purpose of said commission, allow for
- 2 funding with approval, and require review of said membership every two (2) years.

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