

2010 -- H 7342

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HIGHER EDUCATION

Introduced By: Representative Joseph M. McNamara

Date Introduced: February 03, 2010

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-59-28 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-59 entitled "Board of
2 Governors for Higher Education" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **16-59-28. "Bachelors Degree in Three" program.** -- (a) The Rhode Island board of
4 governors for higher education shall establish and administer the "Bachelors Degree in Three"
5 program. The board shall:

6 (1) Establish guidelines for the "Bachelors Degree in Three" program.

7 (2) Collaborate with the board of regents for elementary and secondary education to
8 establish a seamless credit transfer system for high school students and other policies that might
9 facilitate student participation in such a program.

10 (3) Identify and propose any necessary changes to academic courses of study, support
11 services, financial aid, and other policies and resources at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode
12 Island College and the Community College of Rhode Island to ensure greater opportunities for
13 students to complete bachelors degree programs in three (3) years.

14 (4) Identify potential costs of the program, including costs to students, to the institutions,
15 and to school districts, identify possible sources of external grant funding for a pilot program, and
16 propose a funding structure for the program.

17 (5) Investigate accreditation issues and federal financial aid rules that may be implicated
18 by the program.

19 (6) Identify units at the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the

1 Community College of Rhode Island that will assume administrative responsibility for the
2 program.

3 (7) Design, undertake and evaluate a three (3) year pilot program that will serve as a
4 model for full-scale implementation.

5 (b) The board shall present an initial report, recommendations and timeline to the general
6 assembly on or by February 1, ~~2010~~ 2011, and the pilot program will begin with the fall academic
7 semester of ~~2010~~ 2011.

8 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 extend the deadlines for the development of the pilot program for the
- 2 “Bachelors Degree in Three” program.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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