

2013 -- S 0513

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Introduced By: Senators Lombardo, Sosnowski, Ottiano, Cool Rumsey, and Hodgson

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16-21-28 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-21 entitled "Health
2 and Safety of Pupils" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **16-21-28. Health and wellness subcommittee.** -- (a) The school committee of each
4 school district shall establish a district-wide coordinated school health and wellness
5 subcommittee chaired by a member of the full school committee. The subcommittee will make
6 recommendations regarding the district's health education curriculum and instruction, physical
7 education curriculum and instruction, and nutrition and physical activity policies to decrease
8 obesity and enhance the health and well being of students and employees.

9 (b) The school health and wellness subcommittee shall consist of members of the general
10 public, a majority of whom are not employed by the school district, including at least one parent,
11 and are encouraged to include teachers; administrator; students; community and school-based
12 health professionals; business community representatives; and representatives of local and
13 statewide nonprofit health organizations. The subcommittee will be chaired by a member of the
14 school committee.

15 (c) Nothing in this section shall preclude the school committee from reconstituting any
16 existing district-wide volunteer committees as the school health and wellness subcommittee so
17 long as said committee membership meets the requirements of this section.

18 (d) The school health and wellness subcommittee shall be responsible for, but not limited
19 to, development of policies, strategies, and implementation plans that [promote purchasing and](#)

1 [serving locally grown fruits, vegetables and dairy products and that](#) meet the requirements of the
2 child nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. The school health and wellness
3 subcommittee shall forward all recommendations regarding the district's health education
4 curriculum and instruction, physical education curriculum and instruction, nutrition policies, and
5 physical activity policies to the full school committee.

6 (e) Reporting shall be consistent with requirements of section 16-7.1-2(h).

7 (f) The Rhode Island department of elementary and secondary education and the Rhode
8 Island department of health will provide technical assistance and support to the school health and
9 wellness subcommittees on best practices, professional development on coordinated school health
10 issues, suggested initiatives, and will support communication among the school health and
11 wellness subcommittees by sharing information on the activities, efforts, and experiences of
12 subcommittees across the state.

13 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 - HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

- 1 This act would promote the purchasing and serving of locally grown fruits, vegetables
- 2 and dairy products in Rhode Island school districts.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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