

2013 -- S 1046

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LC02950  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
IMPLEMENT A REVERSE TRANSFER POLICY BETWEEN FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND PUBLIC TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Introduced By: Senator Juan M. Pichardo

Date Introduced: July 02, 2013

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), people with an  
2 associate's degree earn more than those whose highest level of educational attainment is a high  
3 school diploma; and

4 WHEREAS, The fastest growing occupations and the fields with the most job openings  
5 are often those which require a worker to have obtained an associate's degree; and

6 WHEREAS, According to census data, by the year 2020 over fifty percent (50%) of  
7 Rhode Island jobs will require some sort of postsecondary training; and

8 WHEREAS, Among Rhode Islanders without a postsecondary degree, nineteen and  
9 seven-tenths percent (19.7%) had at least some college but did not receive a degree; and

10 WHEREAS, Allowing students to transfer many of the credits they have earned towards  
11 an associate's degree would enable those students who have not completed a four-year degree to  
12 obtain an associate's degree. This change will better reflect these Rhode Islanders' educational  
13 attainment, enhancing their job prospects and, in turn, bolstering the state's economy; now,  
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
16 hereby respectfully requests that the Rhode Island Board of Education implement a reverse  
17 transfer policy that shall allow students to use credits earned at a four-year institution towards  
18 attainment of an associate's degree at a public two-year institution; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Board shall consider allowing the transfer of at least eighty

1 percent (80%) of the credits that the public two-year institution requires for the associate's degree  
2 program or certificate; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Board shall report the number of associate's degrees and  
4 certificates awarded where students utilized the reverse transfer options and, wherever possible,  
5 whether the student continued his or her education in pursuit of a bachelor's degree. The report  
6 shall be provided to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and Governor annually,  
7 beginning July 1, 2015; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
9 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Chairperson of the Board of Education and  
10 the Commissioner of Higher Education.

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