

2013 -- S 1047

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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J O I N T   R E S O L U T I O N

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONSIDER THE  
STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PORTION OF THE STATE GRADUATION  
REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGIES

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Metts, Sheehan, Satchell, and Miller

Date Introduced: July 03, 2013

Referred To: Placed on Senate Calendar

1           WHEREAS, According to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
2 approximately 4000 high school students from the Class of 2014 are in jeopardy of not graduating  
3 from high school due to the students' score on the state assessment; and

4           WHEREAS, The General Assembly is concerned about the impact of not having a high  
5 school diploma on students' lives and the economy of the State; and

6           WHEREAS, The common core standards are currently being implemented in schools  
7 throughout the State; and

8           WHEREAS, Rhode Island and twenty-one additional states have agreed to utilize the  
9 Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) as the state assessment  
10 that aligns with the common core standards; and

11           WHEREAS, The New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) will be  
12 replaced by the PARCC beginning in the 2014-2015 school year; and

13           WHEREAS, The former Rhode Island Board of Regents adopted regulations for  
14 graduation standards beginning with the 2013-2014 school year that will require three measures  
15 to be eligible to graduate which are: 1) Successfully completing 20 academic courses in six core  
16 content areas; 2) Successfully completing a performance-based diploma assessment such as a  
17 senior project, exhibition, or electronic portfolio; and 3) Reaching the level of partial proficiency  
18 on the first administration of the state assessment or showing growth between the first and  
19 subsequent administrations of the state assessment; now, therefore be it

1           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence  
2 Plantations hereby supports a rigorous curriculum, high standards, and high expectations for all of  
3 our students; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly hereby urges the Board of Education to  
5 reconsider the current graduation requirements including the use of the state assessment and  
6 examine using a weighted compilation of the state assessment, coursework performance, and  
7 senior project or portfolio; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That this General Assembly respectfully requests that the Board of  
9 Education delay the state assessment portion of the graduation requirement to allow for adequate  
10 time for students to be immersed in the common core curriculum; and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Chairperson of the Rhode Island Board of  
13 Education.

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