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### STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011**

#### AN ACT

#### RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

Introduced By: Senators Jabour, Goodwin, Metts, Pichardo, and Ruggerio

Date Introduced: June 21, 2011

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 16-2-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 16-2 entitled "School

Committees and Superintendents" is hereby amended to read as follows:

16-2-5. Composition of city or town school committees -- Election and terms of

members -- Vacancies. -- The school committee of each city or town shall consist of three (3)

residents of the city or town, or of any number as at the present time constitute the committee. In

cities or towns having annual elections of city or town officers the committee shall be divided as

equally as may be into three (3) classes whose several terms of office shall expire at the end of

three (3) years from the dates of their respective elections. In cities or towns having biennial

elections the committee shall be divided as equally as may be into two (2) classes whose several

terms of office shall expire at the end of four (4) years from the dates of their respective elections.

As the office of each class shall become vacant, the vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the

city or town at its regular city or town meeting for the election of state or city or town officers, or

by the city or town council at its next meeting after this. In case of a vacancy by death,

resignation, or otherwise than as is provided in this section, the vacancy shall be filled by the city

or town council until the next regular city or town meeting for the election of state or city or town

officers, when it shall be filled for the unexpired term as is provided in this section. This section

17 shall not apply to the cities of Providence, Central Falls, or Woonsocket.

SECTION 2. The term of any appointed school committee members shall expire upon the

swearing in of the elected school committee members.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2012.

LC02916

## **EXPLANATION**

## BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

## AN ACT

# RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL COMMITTEES AND SUPERINTENDENTS

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- 1 This act would provide that all school committee members would be elected.
- This act would take effect on January 1, 2012.

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