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LC003648/SUB A
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- ADULT EDUCATION

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, Archambault, Goldin, Pichardo, and E O'Neill

Date Introduced: January 30, 2014

Referred To: Senate Education

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-63 of the General Laws entitled "Adult Education [See Title 16
2 Chapter 97 - The Rhode Island Board of Education Act]" is hereby amended by adding thereto
3 the following section:

4 **16-63-18. High school equivalency testing.** – (a) In selecting which tests shall be
5 utilized and recognized by the state in the granting of high school equivalency diplomas, the
6 board shall consider all available high school equivalency tests that meet and adhere to Rhode
7 Island academic standards and shall give priority to those tests which are provided at the lowest
8 cost for test takers. In selecting said tests, the board shall consider:

9 (1) The recognition of the test, or lack thereof, by other states;

10 (2) The portability of the test; and

11 (3) Such other criteria that meet the needs of the test takers.

12 (b) The board shall adopt, and provide funding for, a rule or regulation granting a waiver
13 of fees associated with the high school equivalency test for individuals with limited income and
14 who can prove a financial hardship; provided, however, that to be eligible for a fee waiver, an
15 individual must have received at least a minimum passing score on the high school equivalency
16 practice test, or pertinent section of the test. The waiver may be based on a sliding scale based on
17 the individual's income.

1 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 require the board of education to consider several factors in determining
2 which high school equivalency test would be recognized by the state. Such facts would include
3 cost, the recognition of the test by other states, and other criteria.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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