

2010 -- S 2805

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

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A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Date Introduced: April 15, 2010

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Sections 16-32-3, 16-32-4, 16-32-5, and 16-32-6 of the General Laws in  
2 Chapter 16-32 entitled "University of Rhode Island" are hereby amended to read as follows:  
3           **16-32-3. Purposes of university.** -- The board, as now constituted, and their successors,  
4 for the terms for which they have been or for which they hereafter may be appointed regents,  
5 shall continue to be a body politic and corporate for the purpose of continuing and maintaining  
6 the University of Rhode Island as a university where the leading object shall be, without  
7 excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach any  
8 branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in order to promote the  
9 liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of  
10 life, as provided in the act of the congress of the United States, approved July 2, 1862, entitled  
11 "An Act Donating Public Lands to the Several States and Territories Which May Provide  
12 Colleges for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts," ([hereafter the "Morrill Act of](#)  
13 [1862"](#)) and for the purpose of continuing and maintaining an agricultural experiment station  
14 ([hereafter the "station"](#)) as a department of the ~~college~~ [University](#) under and in accordance with,  
15 and to carry out the purposes of, the act of congress approved March 2, 1887, entitled "An Act to  
16 Establish Agricultural Experiment Stations in Connection with the Colleges Established in the  
17 Several States Under the Provisions of An Act Approved July 2, 1862, and of the Acts  
18 Supplementary Thereto."  
19           ([Hereafter, the "Smith-Lever Act of 1914"](#)), and as provided in all subsequent acts of the

1 congress of the United States which modify the Morrill Act of 1862, the Hatch Act of 1887,  
2 and/or the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, and as provided by "The National Sea Grant College and  
3 Program Act of 1966" (hereafter, the "Sea Grant Act of 1966"), and as provided in all subsequent  
4 acts of the congress of the United States which modify the Sea Grant Act of 1966, and as  
5 provided by the "Higher Education Act of 1965", and as provided in all subsequent acts of the  
6 congress of the United States that provide for the urban grant college programs. The station and  
7 cooperative extension are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Land Grant Programs."

8 **16-32-4. Location -- Application of federal funds. --** The university and agricultural  
9 experiment station shall, and administrative headquarter for cooperative extension shall until  
10 ordered, continue to be located in the town of South Kingstown upon the estate now occupied by  
11 them, and all money received after this under the act of congress, approved March 2, 1887, and  
12 under the ~~act of congress approved August 30, 1890, entitled "An Act to Apply a Portion of the~~  
13 ~~Proceeds of the Public Lands to the More Complete Endowment and Support of the Colleges for~~  
14 ~~the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, Established Under the Provisions of an Act of~~  
15 ~~Congress Approved July Second, Eighteen Hundred Sixty two,"~~ land grant programs and all  
16 other money which shall be received by the state for the promotion of agriculture or the mechanic  
17 arts at land grant colleges under or by virtue of an act of congress shall, as and when received, be  
18 paid over to the treasurer of the university, to be used and applied and accounted for by the  
19 ~~trustees~~ board of governors for higher education and officers of the university, with the approval  
20 of the state controller, as required by the respective acts of congress under which the money is  
21 received.

22 **16-32-5. ~~Authority over experiment station.---~~ Authority over the land grant, sea**  
23 **grant and urban grant programs. --** The board of governors for higher education shall have  
24 authority over the agricultural experiment station, cooperative extension, Rhode Island sea grant  
25 and Rhode Island urban grant of the university located in the town of South Kingstown.

26 **16-32-6. ~~Activities of experiment station.---~~ Activities of the land grant, sea grant**  
27 **and urban grant programs. --** The agricultural experiment station cooperative extension and  
28 Rhode Island sea grant at the University of Rhode Island shall continue to expend sums of money  
29 received from the United States government for experimental work and ~~agricultural~~  
30 ~~service,~~ outreach in compliance with the Hatch Act of 1887, the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, and  
31 the Sea Grant Act of 1966 and shall also continue to promote and encourage the work of ~~farm~~  
32 ~~bureaus~~ agriculturalists (including aquaculturalists), their professional organizations,  
33 environmental organizations, conservation districts and other agencies of government concerned  
34 with agriculture, the environment, or the purposes of the station or cooperative extension, and the

1 private sector collaborating with the station or cooperative extension, consistent with the  
2 requirements of the Hatch Act of 1887, the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the Sea Grant Act of 1966  
3 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 and expend sums of money received from federal and state  
4 appropriations, subject to budgetary control provided by chapter 3 of title 35.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 16-32 of the General Laws entitled "University of Rhode Island" is  
6 hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

7 **16-32-4.1. Appropriation of state funds as cash matching funds for federal research,**  
8 **extension and training grants. --** Beginning in fiscal year 2010, the general assembly shall  
9 annually appropriate a sum with the board of governors for higher education for the exclusive  
10 purpose of cash matching funds for research grants from federal government departments  
11 including, but not limited to, the United States departments of agriculture, commerce, defense,  
12 education, homeland security, interior, and transportation, and other federal agencies including,  
13 but not limited to, the environmental protection agency, national endowment for the arts, national  
14 endowment for the humanities, national institutes for health, the United States agency for  
15 international development, and the national science foundation. Such funds shall be expended  
16 under the direction of the board of governors for higher education and officers of the university,  
17 and annual expenditures shall be reported to the general assembly by a university official  
18 responsible for university-wide research and extension activities under the provisions of section  
19 16-32-7. Maximum authorized annual state appropriation under this section shall be one hundred  
20 percent (100%) of the total amount of federal research, extension and training grant fund  
21 expenditures reported to the general assembly in the preceding fiscal year.

22 **16-32-4.2. Use of state funds to enhance research, extension and training programs.**  
23 = The annual appropriation of federal grant matching funds shall be in addition to and separate  
24 from any funds regularly appropriated to the university under section 16-32-9; thus there shall be  
25 no reduction of appropriations to the university as authorized under section 16-32-9. All faculty  
26 and staff at the university receiving federal grants for research, outreach, training or creative  
27 endeavors are eligible to make application for and to receive these funds. Expenditure of state  
28 matching funds shall follow rules and accounting standards promulgated in the official manuals  
29 of the federal granting agencies, including rules governing approval for projects and activities and  
30 expenditure of funds for approved projects and activities.

31 SECTION 3. 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 - UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

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1           This act would enhance the capability of the University of Rhode Island to conduct  
2 scientific research, creative scholarship, the arts and public outreach activities by authorizing the  
3 appropriation of additional state funds to match annual federal grant funds from several U.S.  
4 departments and agencies, without reduction in the university's general operating budget.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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