

2019 -- H 5552

LC001322

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Introduced By: Representative Justine A. Caldwell

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-21 of the General Laws entitled "Health and Safety of Pupils" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-21-37. Seclusion of pupils prohibited.**

4 (a) All Rhode Island school districts shall prohibit the involuntary placement of a pupil in
5 seclusion except as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate risk of injury to the physical
6 safety of the pupil, staff, or other individuals in the school. Involuntary placement in seclusion
7 may not be used for discipline, convenience or as a substitute for a less restrictive alternative.

8 (b) For purposes of this section "seclusion" means placing a pupil alone in a locked room
9 without supervision.

10 SECTION 2. 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 -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

1 This act would prohibit the use of seclusion in schools except to prevent immediate injury
2 to the pupil or others.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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