

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO. _____ DATE _____

APPROVED _____ MAYOR

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ORGANIZE A
COMMISSION TO STUDY RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROGRAMS TO IDENTIFY FOR ELIMINATION NONBENEFICIAL
UNFUNDED MANDATES

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, investment in elementary and secondary education is critical to strengthening communities, invigorating the economy, and improving quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island provides that it is the duty of the General Assembly to promote public schools and to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of education; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has issued numerous policies or program mandates on local schools, with or without funding, and have not fully updated existing outdated policies or programs that appear to lack a benefit to students, faculty or staff; and

WHEREAS, unfunded mandates from RIDE and shortfalls in state funding for education exacerbate the property tax burden imposed by local government on residents and businesses in order to fulfill municipal education obligations from the state; and

WHEREAS, FY2022 state education aid entitlements to the City of Warwick contributed less than 25% of the funding required for the City’s \$174 million FY2022 school budget; and

WHEREAS, the Warwick City Council desires that the General Assembly conduct cost benefit analyses of programs mandated by RIDE that are not funded, with the goal of elimination of those mandates that do not provide a benefit to students, faculty or staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Warwick City Council hereby respectfully requests the General Assembly to organize a commission to study Rhode Island Department of Education programs to identify for elimination nonbeneficial unfunded mandates.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to the City's Representatives and Senators in the Rhode Island General Assembly.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

SPONSOR:	COUNCILMAN FOLEY
	COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCALLISTER
	COUNCILMAN RIX
	COUNCILMAN LADOUCEUR
	COUNCILMAN MCELROY
	COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS
	COUNCILMAN HOWE
COMMITTEE:	INTERGOVERNMENTAL