

March 24, 2025

The Honorable Joseph M. McNamara, Chair
House Education Committee
Rhode Island House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: BILL NUMBER H-5292 – AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Chair McNamara and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 5292. This legislation is critical in addressing the financial burden placed on the sending school districts regarding the basic education program (BEP) data collection for students attending career and technical education (CTE) schools.

House Bill 5292 would require that the BEP data collection information for students attending CTE schools be charged to the receiving school district rather than the sending school district. With municipal budgets already stretched thin, this legislation provides a fair and equitable solution for our members, ensuring that financial responsibility aligns with the school district providing direct educational services. By implementing this change, the General Assembly would be taking an important step toward improving fiscal fairness and stability for Rhode Island's cities and towns.

The League appreciates the legislature's continued efforts to work collaboratively with municipal leaders to develop policies that support Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns. We urge the committee to advance House Bill 5292 and look forward to continued discussions on how we can best serve our communities together.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy R. Rossi".

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House Education Committee
Representative Deborah A. Fellela