



## Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District

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### School Committee

Lee Kissing, Chairperson; Donna Gamache-Griffiths, Vice Chairperson; Kevin McGovern, Clerk; Madeline Josefson; Kevin Robishaw; Shelley O'Connor; Jennifer Sweet

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*Superintendent of Schools*

MARIE-ELENA J. AHERN, Ed.D.  
*Curriculum Director*

**Administration**  
SARAH E. DENTZ, M. Ed.  
*Director of Special Services*

PATRICIA J. RUIZZO, MS.ITM.  
*Director of Administration*

TAISABEL LOPEZ  
*District Treasurer*

### Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee Resolution on Out of District Transportation

**WHEREAS**, in 1977, the Rhode Island General Assembly enacted § 16-21.1 establishing five school bus regions based on the location of the then ten career and technical (CTE) centers, and there are now over 250 CTE programs statewide, and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to transporting students to public CTE centers, § 16-21.1 also requires transportation for students attending private and parochial schools, and

**WHEREAS**, eighty-five percent of private school transportation comes out of region three, placing a financial burden on public school districts in that region, resulting in some of the highest transportation costs in the state, and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Legislative Commission studying the statewide school bus transportation system, the cost of transporting students outside their home districts could reach \$40 million in FY 2025, and,

**WHEREAS**, according to the Commission, public school districts could save approximately \$3.5 million if the number of regions were increased to nine and reconfigured, and,

**WHEREAS**, 2025–H 6236 by Representative Terri Cortvriend and 2025 S–0972 Senator Linda Ujifusa would increase the regions to nine and also reconfigure them, and

**WHEREAS**, mindful of the impact on private school students, H 6236 & S 0972 would hold those students and their families fiscally harmless by grandfathering them in until July 1, 2029,

#### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

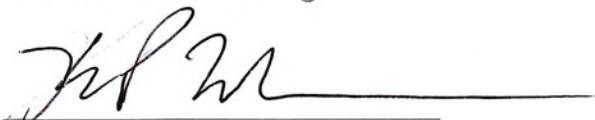
That the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to enact H 6236 & S 0972, and

#### **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

A copy of this Resolution should be forwarded to every State Senator, State Representative, and the Governor.

**ADOPTED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

  
School Committee Chair

  
School Committee Clerk

*Our Mission: Empowering Students: Dream...Reach...Succeed.*

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