

Chris O'Brien

From: Erin Holloway <eaholloway2363@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 8:58 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Rule of 90

Categories: Red category

You don't often get email from eaholloway2363@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: House Finance Committee
Rhode Island General Assembly

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing as a Providence school employee who holds a Master's degree in Social Work and a Master of Arts in Teaching. I have been a dedicated employee of PPSD for more than 30 years. I am writing to ask you to support the Rule of 90 retirement legislation currently under your consideration.

In our district, it is common to work alongside educators who have dedicated 25, 30, or even more years to educating and supporting our students. Over time, you can see the true cost of that commitment—not just in long hours, but in the physical and emotional toll the job takes. In addition, many of us have worked in unhealthy school buildings and have been asked to do an absurd amount of work because the district can't afford to have enough staff.

Many of us have watched respected colleagues reach a point where they are exhausted but they are unable to retire. Some continue working despite serious health concerns because they have not yet reached retirement eligibility under the Rule of 95. Others never make it to retirement at all. These are educators who dedicated their lives to their students, yet never had the chance to enjoy the retirement they worked so hard to earn. My health has personally been impacted by the stress and the increasingly absurd expectations of my job. In addition, it is most frustrating that what was promised at hiring has changed and the goal post was moved making it harder to ever reach what was originally promised when hired. At the same time, the rising cost of living in Rhode Island makes it increasingly difficult for teachers to plan for the future. Even those who have dedicated decades of service worry about whether they will be able to retire with stability and dignity.

The Rule of 90 would offer a more reasonable and humane path forward. It would allow experienced teachers to retire with a greater chance of having their health and dignity intact. This would also create opportunities for new educators to enter the profession.

This is not just about retirement—it is about recognizing the reality of teaching and honoring the people who have given so much to their students.

I respectfully urge you to support the Rule of 90 legislation.

Sincerely,

Erin Holloway, LICSW, MAT