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PRESS RELEASE

LEGAL INSURRECTION FOUNDATION FILES CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT CHALLENGING PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DISCRIMINATORY "EDUCATOR OF COLOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM"

November 15, 2022 (Barrington, Rhode Island) - The Legal Insurrection Foundation announced today that it has filed a federal civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights ("OCR") against the Providence Public School District in Providence, Rhode Island ("PPSD") for PPSD's practice of discriminating on the basis of race, color and national origin through a student loan forgiveness program for newly and recently hired educators that is *only* available to non-white applicants. This program, called the "Educator of Color Loan Forgiveness Program," is administered and implemented by PPSD as part of a multi-year funding agreement with the Rhode Island Foundation, the largest charity in Rhode Island.

Legal Insurrection Foundation calls on OCR to order that the discriminatory practices be discontinued immediately and take all necessary enforcement action to effectuate that order. This includes, if necessary, imposing fines, initiating administrative proceedings to suspend, terminate, or refuse to grant or continue federal financial assistance, and referring the case to the Department of Justice for judicial proceedings to enforce the rights of the United States.

A copy of the Complaint is available [here](#).

Legal Insurrection Foundation President William A. Jacobson stated:

"The Providence Public Schools and the Rhode Island Foundation need to make the loan forgiveness program retroactively available to people hired since the program started who were excluded from consideration on the basis of race or ethnicity. That will not compensate people who never applied because of the discriminatory provisions, but it would be a good start. If that means the Providence schools and Rhode Island Foundation have to put forth additional funding, it's the least they could do."

The Legal Insurrection Foundation is a Rhode Island tax-exempt nonprofit devoted, among other things, to fighting discrimination in education.