

2023 -- H 5138

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND THANKING DEBORAH L. PERRY FOR TWENTY-FOUR
YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO YWCA RHODE ISLAND AND
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Giraldo, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Voas, Morales, Potter,
Kislak, Casimiro, Vella-Wilkinson, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: January 17, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Deborah L. Perry gained the distinguished designation as the youngest
2 President and CEO of YWCA Rhode Island when she was appointed in July of 1999, at the age
3 of 36. She had previously served as the nonprofit's Development Director from 1997-1999; and

4 WHEREAS, During her tenure, Ms. Perry focused her talents and vision on increasing
5 the YWCA's assets, adding a panoply of innovative programs to address the needs and challenges
6 of many Rhode Island communities, and instituting numerous plans that have provided for the
7 long term financial stability and success of the organization; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Perry has achieved myriad advancements in YWCA programing and
9 services including the establishment of innovative programs for middle school girls, the
10 acquisition and revitalization of the YWCA/Nickerson Community Center in Providence, the
11 creation of media celebrating the aspirations and accomplishments of Rhode Island women, and
12 the formation of a statewide organization through the merger of Woonsocket-based YWCA
13 Northern Rhode Island into Central Falls-based YWCA Greater Rhode Island; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition, Ms. Perry served as the inaugural chair of the Sheila Skip
15 Nowell Leadership Academy and managed Gateway to Independence, which serves more than
16 100 veterans each year; and

17 WHEREAS, The Chair of the YWCA Rhode Island YWCA's Board of Directors
18 fittingly praised Ms. Perry's accomplishments stating, "Deborah's leadership, vision,
19 determination, as well as her unassuming 'can do' approach, have all served to increase the

1 influence and impact of the YWCA"; and

2 WHEREAS, Deborah Perry's achievements and advancements for and with YWCA
3 Rhode Island have been beneficial to many, many Rhode Islanders and she is worthy of our
4 gratitude and recognition; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
6 congratulates and thanks Deborah Perry for her dedicated leadership and service to YWCA
7 Rhode Island on the occasion of her retirement as the organization's President and CEO. We
8 moreover wish her good health and continued success in all her future endeavors; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Deborah L. Perry.

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