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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE 12TH ANNUAL PROSTART® HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION

Introduced By: Senators LaMountain, E Morgan, DeLuca, Britto, Burke, Bissaillon, Picard, Murray, Felag, and Bell

Date Introduced: March 28, 2024

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, ProStart® is “a two-year hospitality career-building program designed by
2 the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation” with an enrollment of nearly 600
3 Rhode Island students. The Hospitality & Tourism Management program and the American Hotel
4 & Lodging Educational Institute is a two-year, turnkey high school curriculum with
5 approximately 100 additional students currently enrolled; and

6 WHEREAS, Hosted by the RI Hospitality Education Foundation, the ProStart® High
7 School Competition is an annual event featuring three competitive areas, Culinary Arts,
8 Foodservice Management, and Hospitality Tourism Management; and

9 WHEREAS, Forty-five high school culinary students from five Rhode Island schools
10 competed in the three areas, with more than fifty local industry professionals serving as judges.
11 At stake was nearly \$1,000,000 in available scholarship money, to be shared among the winning
12 teams; and

13 WHEREAS, The culinary team members from the Exeter Job Corps Academy, including
14 Armani Rios, Nikaya Garcia, Curiney Cain, Steven Sarabia, and Jakayla Steele, led by Chef
15 Instructor Mark Bennison, won the Culinary Arts portion of the competition; and

16 WHEREAS, A foodservice management team from the Warwick Area Career and
17 Technical Center including Tyler Lowe, Bruce Angelini, Kate Whalen, and Victoria "Harper"
18 Salinas, led by Instructor Austin Irons won the Foodservice Management portion of the
19 competition; and

1 WHEREAS, The hospitality tourism management team from CHARIHOTech including
2 Elinor Hammett, Gawin Apice, Juliet Costa, Olivia Swanson, and Morgan Allen, led by Instructor
3 Donald Fair won the Hospitality Tourism Management portion of the competition; and

4 WHEREAS, Winning dishes and desserts from the competition will be featured at some
5 of Rhode Island’s finest restaurants, and winning culinary and foodservice management team
6 members will now advance to represent Rhode Island at the National Restaurant Association
7 Educational Foundation’s National ProStart® Invitational competition; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends enthusiastic
9 congratulations to members of Exeter Job Corps Academy, the Warwick Area Career and
10 Technical Center, and CHARIHOTech on winning the ProStart High School Competition and
11 wishes Exeter and Warwick best of luck at the National Competition in Baltimore, MD, on April
12 26th through April 28th, 2024; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Exeter Job Corps Academy, Warwick Area
15 Career and Technical Center, and CHARIHOTech.

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