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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS OF THE 2026 14TH ANNUAL PROSTART® HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION AND WISHING THEM SUCCESS AT THE NATIONAL PROSTART® INVITATIONAL

Introduced By: Representatives Solomon, Cotter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Spears, Kennedy, Chippendale, Hopkins, Casey, and Boylan

Date Introduced: April 09, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

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 800
3 Rhode Island students and an additional 400 students enrolled in the Hospitality & Tourism
4 Management program, designed by the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute’s
5 (AHLEI) which is also a two-year, turnkey high school curriculum; and

6 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Hospitality Education Foundation (RIHEF) hosted the
7 2026 14th Annual Rhode Island High School Culinary Arts, Foodservice & Hotel Management
8 Competition in February, with ten local teams competing for scholarships and prizes, and the
9 opportunity to represent Rhode Island in the 2026 National ProStart® Invitational in Baltimore,
10 Maryland from April 24th - 26th, 2026; and

11 WHEREAS, The annual event features three competitive categories: Culinary Arts,
12 Foodservice Management, and Hospitality Tourism Management, with more than thirty local
13 hospitality industry professionals serving as judges; and

14 WHEREAS, The top competitors represented Chariho Career and Technical Center
15 (CHARIHOTech), Newport Area Career and Technical Center, Warwick Area Career and
16 Technical Center, William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School and Woonsocket
17 Area Career and Technical Center; and

18 WHEREAS, Rhode Island’s First Place Culinary Arts Team, hailed from the Warwick
19 Area Career and Technical Center includes Instructor Eva Niosi, and winning students Anthony

1 Morales, Richard Desmarais, Tyler Hartley and Liam McGloin; and

2 WHEREAS, The First Place Foodservice Management Team also hailed from the
3 Warwick Area Career and Technical Center, includes Instructor Austin Irons and winning
4 students Jailyn Huffman, Giana Gioffreda, Alexiana Medeiros, Anissa Gill, and Liliana
5 Lunsmann; and

6 WHEREAS, The First Place Hospitality & Tourism Management Team, hailed from the
7 Chariho Career and Technical Center, includes instructor Donald Fair and winning students Rosie
8 Sposato, Logan Berdos, Maddie Niewiecki, and Lilyana Juneau; and

9 WHEREAS, The winning Culinary Arts and Foodservice Management Teams will now
10 advance to compete at the 2026 National ProStart® Invitational on April 24th - 26th, 2026, where
11 they will represent not only their respective schools, but also the State of Rhode Island; now,
12 therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
14 extends enthusiastic congratulations to the Warwick Area Career and Technical Center, the
15 Chariho Career and Technical Center, their instructors, and their students on winning the 2026
16 Rhode Island ProStart® High School Competition, and wishes them the very best of luck at the
17 National ProStart® Invitational in Baltimore, MD; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
19 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Warwick Area Career and Technical Center and
20 the Chariho Career and Technical Center.

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