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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE CAROLINA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ON
RECEIVING THE RICHMOND GRANGE'S COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP OF THE
YEAR AWARD

Introduced By: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Date Introduced: April 28, 2026

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Over the past year, the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department has displayed
2 their incredible and extraordinary commitment to the Richmond/Carolina community, going far
3 beyond their already vital and essential roles as firefighters and emergency responders, but also
4 through their compassion, and generosity in supporting their neighbors and one another; and

5 WHEREAS, The overwhelming dedication of the members of the Carolina Volunteer
6 Fire Department was displayed prominently in the way they rallied together in support of their
7 colleague, Christopher Sherman, who was diagnosed with cancer. When Chris began his
8 treatment at Rhode Island Hospital, members of the Department organized a fire truck escort to
9 send him off with strength, support and solidarity, and each time Chris returned home, he was
10 welcomed back with another escort; and

11 WHEREAS, In September, the members of the Department hosted their annual 9/11
12 Softball Tournament and dedicated the proceeds to the Sherman family. In a magnificent display
13 of community spirit, the winning team, the Harmony Fire Department, also donated their
14 winnings to the Sherman family; and

15 WHEREAS, The members of the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department also came together
16 to build a ramp at the home of the Sherman family, ensuring that Chris could safely and
17 comfortably enter and exit during his recovery; and

18 WHEREAS, In addition to helping their colleague, Chris, the department also
19 participated in the "Good Night Lights" program at Hasbro Children's Hospital, and took part in

1 the Special Olympics Rhode Island Polar Plunge in March. The Department also provided
2 education to local scouting troops on firefighting and safety, distributes free vehicle fire
3 extinguishers to community members as part of the Moira's Mission Public Safety Campaign,
4 collects toys at toy drives at Christmas as part of Matthew's Wish, and hosts a Santa's Light
5 Parade around town; and

6 WHEREAS, The Carolina Volunteer Fire Department also takes their responsibility to
7 educate the public on fire safety quite seriously, and posts weekly on their social media sites on
8 relevant and related topics to include cooking safety, proper Christmas Tree disposal methods, pet
9 safety, heater safety, how to prepare for extreme cold, proper ways for battery and chemical
10 disposal, chemical and medicine reactions, reminders for home fire safety equipment, inspections,
11 and causes; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island with great appreciation and
13 admiration hereby heartily congratulates the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department on receiving the
14 2026 Community Service Group of the Year Award from the Richmond Grange; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
16 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Carolina Volunteer Fire Department.

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