

2013 -- H 6035

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**HONORING CHRISTOPHER F. KOLLER FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Ruggiero, Tomasso, E Coderre, Kennedy, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: April 24, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The position of Health Insurance Commissioner was one of the reform
2 efforts legislatively enacted in 2004 to restructure and transform Rhode Island's health insurance
3 industry; and

4 WHEREAS, To the immense good fortune of the people of the State of Rhode Island,
5 Christopher F. Koller became our state's first health insurance commissioner in January of 2005;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Koller graduated summa cum laude from Dartmouth College with a
8 degree in mathematics/economics. He later earned his master's degrees from Yale Divinity
9 School, in social ethics, and the Yale School of Organization and Management, in public and
10 private management; and

11 WHEREAS, During his tenure as Rhode Island's Health Insurance Commissioner, Mr.
12 Koller devoted his considerable talents and energy to making healthcare more accessible and
13 affordable for Rhode Island employers and individuals. He has reviewed and often reduced the
14 premium increases that insurers propose, to the ultimate benefit of thousands of Rhode Islanders;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Highly regarded among his peers, Mr. Koller attained national prominence
17 in health policy circles for his healthcare reform efforts in Rhode Island; and

18 WHEREAS, Since the adoption of President Obama's new healthcare laws, Mr. Koller

1 has had a key role in the state's efforts to carry them out, serving on the Health Benefits Exchange
2 advisory board. He is also co-chairman of a new council working on a statewide plan for health
3 services; and

4 WHEREAS, Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Mr. Koller was the Chief
5 Executive Officer of Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI), a 73,000 member
6 HMO founded in 1994 by Rhode Island's Community Health Centers; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Koller is stepping down after eight years as Commissioner to take a
8 position as President of the New York City-based Milbank Memorial Fund, a national health
9 policy foundation. He leaves Rhode Island with a legacy of commitment to the people of this
10 state and to quality and affordable health insurance that is imminently worthy of our emulation
11 and admiration; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
13 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes and thanks Christopher F. Koller for eight years of
14 dedicated service as Rhode Island's Health Insurance Commissioner. We moreover wish him
15 good health, fulfillment, and much success in his future endeavors; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Christopher F. Koller.

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