

2013 -- S 0579

=====
LC01875
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DIVISION OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS TO STUDY
IMPLEMENTING A VETERANS ADMINISTRATION CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT
FUND PROGRAM FOR RHODE ISLAND VETERANS

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, Bates, Pichardo, Ottiano, and Felag

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

1 WHEREAS, Since 2001, over two million American military personnel have been
2 deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan; and

3 WHEREAS, Rhode Island, along with the rest of the country, is witnessing the return of
4 our mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, and sons and daughters from the field of battle; and

5 WHEREAS, Rhode Island despite its small size, has borne a significant share of sacrifice
6 in these recent conflicts; and

7 WHEREAS; The call back rate of the state's own National Guard to active duty status is
8 the second highest in the entire United States, with over 10,000 unit deployments; and

9 WHEREAS, The number of veterans living in Rhode Island who served in the Gulf Wars
10 is three times higher than the national per capita average, and is expected to grow as troops begin
11 to withdraw from Afghanistan; and

12 WHEREAS, Returning combat veterans, many of whom are single parents, need access
13 to child care services in order to better seek civilian employment opportunities, job training,
14 additional educational opportunities, and medical and behavioral healthcare services; and

15 WHEREAS, The US Veterans Administration (VA) offers a child care subsidy program
16 to assist all active service members and veterans with child care costs for dependents aged 6
17 months to 12 years old, at specific pre-approved, licensed centers; and

18 WHEREAS, Currently there are no VA-approved centers located in Rhode Island, with
19 the closest center located in Boston; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
2 respectfully requests that the Rhode Island Division of Veterans Affairs study the feasibility of
3 implementing a VA Child Care Subsidy Program in Rhode Island; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
5 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Rhode Island Division of Veterans' Affairs.

=====
LC01875
=====