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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MARCH AS MULTIPLE MYELOMA MONTH IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Lynch, and McCaffrey

Date Introduced: March 06, 2013

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Multiple myeloma (or myeloma) is the second most common blood cancer
2 worldwide and targets plasma cells in the bone marrow. It is called “multiple” because the cancer
3 can occur at multiple sites; and

4 WHEREAS, Multiple myeloma currently affects more than 100,000 people in the United
5 States, with an estimated 20,000 new cases diagnosed each year and 10,000 patients who lose
6 their battle with this disease annually; and

7 WHEREAS, Once known as a disease of the elderly, it is now being found in increasing
8 numbers in people under the age of sixty-five; and

9 WHEREAS, Because myeloma is a rare disease there can be a delayed diagnosis, leading
10 to delayed treatment. For this reason an increased awareness of myeloma for clinicians and the
11 general public will lead to earlier diagnosis, allowing people to live longer; and

12 WHEREAS, Continued investment and innovation are critical to achieve early diagnosis
13 and implement the most effective and safest treatments for myeloma patients; and

14 WHEREAS, Although important advances have occurred in the last decade, there is still
15 no cure for myeloma; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
17 hereby commits itself to increasing awareness of myeloma and encouraging private efforts to
18 enhance research funding and education programs; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate proclaims the month of March as “Multiple Myeloma

1 Month” in the State of Rhode Island and encourages all residents to participate in voluntary
2 activities to support myeloma education and the funding of research programs to find a cure; and
3 be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
5 transmit a copy of this resolution to the International Myeloma Foundation.

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