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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY 9, 2013, AS
"CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Paiva Weed, Goodwin, Archambault, and Picard

Date Introduced: May 09, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Education is the gateway to a brighter future for our children and nation.
2 During National Charter Schools Week, we celebrate charter schools' commitment to academic
3 achievement, accountability, and innovation. We recognize the vital role charter schools play in
4 fostering an America where children have the knowledge and skills they need to grow, succeed,
5 and achieve their dreams; and

6 WHEREAS, As a publically-funded alternative to traditional public schools, charter
7 schools have expanded our understanding of public education by embracing the spirit of
8 discovery and providing innovative avenues for success; and

9 WHEREAS, Since the 1995 passage of Rhode Island's charter public schools' enabling
10 legislation, sixteen start-up institutions have been established serving over 4,600 students from
11 thirty-four communities; and

12 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are independent public schools of choice that are free
13 to be innovative and are accountable for student achievement; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, Rhode Island charter public schools primarily serve urban areas and
15 face the challenges of poverty at a higher than average rate. Yet, these schools continue to be
16 among the strongest in the state; and

17 WHEREAS, Charter public schools provide an alternative public education to students
18 who desire a different learning environment than that provided by traditional public schools.
19 Charter public schools provide Rhode Island parents and students their only public school

1 choice option; and

2 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are designed to deliver programs tailored to
3 educational excellence and community need; and

4 WHEREAS, Because they are public schools of choice, they are open to the public,
5 funded by the public, and are accountable to the public; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby proclaims May 9, 2013, as “Charter Public School Day” in the State of Rhode Island and
8 recognizes the achievement of our sixteen charter public schools; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Principals/Directors of Rhode Island’s
11 charter public schools.

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