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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND'S PHARMACY OUTREACH
PROGRAM ON TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Introduced By: Senator M. Teresa Paiva Weed

Date Introduced: June 27, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Pharmacy Outreach Program, located within the University of Rhode
2 Island's College of Pharmacy, is celebrating its twenty-fifth year of continued service to Rhode
3 Island communities; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1988, the Rhode Island General Assembly awarded a grant to the URI
5 College of Pharmacy to provide pharmacy educational services on a full-time basis. This
6 Outreach Program now stands as a vibrant part of the state's health information delivery
7 infrastructure thanks in great part to the incredible leadership and efforts of Professors E. Paul
8 Larrat and Rita Marcoux, who both helped initiate the program, as well as a cadre of talented staff
9 and energetic pharmacy students; and

10 WHEREAS, The Outreach Program has impacted the health of individuals and entire
11 communities throughout the Ocean State. With multiple sites in each county, the program reached
12 7,500 Rhode Island residents in 2012 alone, many of them members of the most medically
13 vulnerable populations. The program provides Rhode Island residents with an objective, free
14 source of information and education concerning medication, health, and financial resources. The
15 program makes available comprehensive prescription and over-the-counter reviews of
16 medications to help minimize the number of adverse drug events patients experience and increase
17 medication compliance. By involving pharmacy students, the program also helps ensure that
18 future Rhode Island pharmacists understand their patient populations and the health needs of
19 Rhode Island's communities; and

1 WHEREAS, Since its establishment, the Pharmacy Outreach Program has resulted in
2 stronger community ties built between the staff of the College of Pharmacy and various Rhode
3 Island communities. By offering opportunities such as the signature Brown Bag Program within
4 Rhode Island’s communities and in neighborhood gathering sites, the Pharmacy Outreach
5 Program has reduced barriers to health care and eased the challenges experienced by busy
6 community practices; and

7 WHEREAS, In the face of all of the new and complex changes to our health care system,
8 it is imperative that organizations that work to improve Rhode Island’s public health and well-
9 being be commended for their selfless contributions; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
11 hereby recognizes and congratulates the University of Rhode Island’s College of Pharmacy on its
12 twenty-five years of success offering its Outreach Program. We commend all of the students and
13 staff who have supported the initiative over its existence and wish all involved many more years
14 of success in supporting better health for all Rhode Islanders; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is directed and authorized to
16 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Professors E. Paul Larrat and Rita Marcoux.

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