

2014 -- S 2340

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

JOINT RESOLUTION

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$258,866 FOR CRANSTON AND \$158,290.12 FOR
CHARIHO IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 STATE BUDGET

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, and Miller

Date Introduced: February 12, 2014

Referred To: Senate Finance

1 WHEREAS, The Chariho Regional School District ("Chariho") operates a regional career
2 and technical center ("CTC") for high school students seeking to learn a trade such as automotive
3 repair or culinary arts; and

4 WHEREAS, The CTC enrolls students from not just the Chariho communities but also
5 from Westerly, Narragansett, South Kingstown, North Kingstown, and West Greenwich; and

6 WHEREAS, As of February 11, 2009, the board of regents had promulgated regulations
7 stating that the state would reimburse "100%" of the salary, benefits, and travel expenses of the
8 director and guidance counselors at any CTC; and

9 WHEREAS, On February 11, 2009, Chariho joined litigation brought by the Cranston
10 Public Schools ("Cranston") seeking reimbursement from the Rhode Island department of
11 education ("RIDE") for the salaries, benefits, and travel expenses of the director and guidance
12 counselors at its CTC; and

13 WHEREAS, RIDE denied all liability because, among other reasons, the general
14 assembly had made no appropriation for the payments sought by Chariho and Cranston; and

15 WHEREAS, Chariho and Cranston ultimately prosecuted such litigation to the Rhode
16 Island Supreme Court where it was referred for mediation; and

17 WHEREAS, Chariho, Cranston, and RIDE participated in mediation conducted by Chief
18 Justice Williams (ret.), and entered into a settlement agreement whereby RIDE agreed to pay the
19 salaries, benefits, and travel expenses of the directors and guidance counselors at the Chariho

1 CTC and Cranston's for one year in the amount of \$258,866 for Cranston and \$158,290.12 for
2 Chariho; and

3 WHEREAS, A condition of the settlement was that the Fiscal Year 2013 State Budget
4 include an appropriation for the same as RIDE was unwilling to take such funds from its
5 operating budget; and

6 WHEREAS, The Governor did not, however, request the necessary funds in the Fiscal
7 Year 2013 State Budget and the general assembly made no appropriation for the same in the
8 Fiscal Year 2013 State Budget; and

9 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court has held the matter over one more year to allow the
10 parties to secure an appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2014 State Budget; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not
12 otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year 2013-2014, the sum of two hundred fifty-eight thousand
13 eight hundred sixty-six dollars (\$258,866) to the City of Cranston and the sum of one hundred
14 and fifty-eight thousand two hundred ninety dollars and twelve cents (\$158,290.12) to Chariho;
15 and the state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general
16 treasurer for the payment of said sum, (optional or so much thereof as may be from time to time
17 required,) upon receipt by him of properly authenticated vouchers.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$258,866 FOR CRANSTON AND \$158,290.12 FOR
CHARIHO IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 STATE BUDGET

- 1 This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$258,866 to the City of
- 2 Cranston and the sum of \$158,290.12 to Chariho in the fiscal year 2013-2014 state budget.

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