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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

**HONORING AND COMMENDING THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF RHODE ISLAND
YOUTH OF THE YEAR PROGRAM**

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Paiva Weed, Picard, Pearson, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: April 16, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Boys & Girls Clubs of Rhode Island are an integral part of our
2 communities. Not only do they provide a safe space for our youth, but their programs help our
3 young people develop and build the skills they need to be successful; and

4 WHEREAS, Since 1947, the Youth of the Year program has encouraged young members
5 of the Boys & Girls Club to reach their full potential through academic success, healthy lifestyles,
6 and contributing to their communities; and

7 WHEREAS, The Youth of the Year program richly demonstrates the positive impact the
8 Boys & Girls Clubs exert on young peoples' lives and on the future of our nation. Boys & Girls
9 Clubs help youth enter the world with positive self-identity, educational, social, emotional, and
10 cultural competencies, community and civic involvement, a moral compass, and attributes and
11 capabilities our young people need to become responsible, successful, patriotic adults and leaders.
12 Youth of the Year winners at the local, state, regional, and national levels exemplify the hard
13 work, determination, and hope of the Boys & Girls Club movement; and

14 WHEREAS, The rich history of the Youth of the Year program emanates from the efforts
15 of generations of dedicated staff and volunteers who have mentored Club youth and helped them
16 to reach their full potential; and

17 WHEREAS, Being named a Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club
18 member can receive. This award signifies that the member has contributed in multiple ways to
19 their family, school, community, and Boys & Girls Club. The award also testifies to the fact that

1 the recipient has had to overcome personal challenges and obstacles, even as they have devoted
2 time and effort into improving the lives of those around them; and

3 WHEREAS, It is fitting that our outstanding young people and the organizations that
4 support them are recognized for making Rhode Island a better place. In 2014, we honor the
5 following seven young people who have made an indelible impression on their communities:
6 Raeqwong Roberts, Mitchell Lawson, Richard Dalrymple, Azzys Rodas, Sarah Murray, Dashawn
7 Howland, and Yvette Armstrong; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
9 hereby honors and commends the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rhode Island and congratulates the
10 seven young people who have been named Youth of the Year. We thank all of the people
11 involved who have contributed selflessly to their communities, served as role models, and
12 committed themselves to doing more for the state. We extend to the awardees our best wishes for
13 success, and hope the Boys & Girls Clubs continue their fine work shaping the lives of Rhode
14 Islanders; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
16 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to James I. Clark, President and CEO of the Boys
17 & Girls Clubs of America.

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