

2014 -- S 3084

=====
LC005849
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JOHNSON &
WALES UNIVERSITY**

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, Metts, Pichardo, and Miller

Date Introduced: June 05, 2014

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, On September 14, 1914, Gertrude Irene Johnson and Mary Tiffany Wales
2 opened the Johnson & Wales Business School to impart to young people the knowledge and skills
3 needed to enter the world of business and, in the words of Miss Wales, to provide a program of
4 business and office education "not for its own sake, but as preparation for what lies beyond"; and

5 WHEREAS, As men left to fight in World War I and women stepped in to meet the needs
6 of the business workforce, some sought additional training and education at the business school
7 founded by Miss Johnson and Miss Wales; and

8 WHEREAS, The school had originally opened with one student and one typewriter in
9 Miss Johnson's home at 250 Hope St. on the East Side of Providence, but as the school began to
10 grow, it moved to larger accommodations at 222 Olney Street and, in 1926, moved downtown to
11 36 Exchange Place; and

12 WHEREAS, Following the Hurricane of 1938 and the end of the Great Depression, the
13 school continued to grow, necessitating a move in 1940 to larger facilities in the Gardner
14 Building at 40 Fountain Street in Providence; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1947, Edward and Vilma Triangolo partnered with Morris and Audrey
16 Gaebe to acquire the school which had grown to 125 students, adding courses in business
17 management, marketing, salesmanship and accounting; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1960, the school received accreditation as a junior college of business by
19 the Accrediting Commission of Business Schools in Washington, D.C., a certification of

1 excellence for non-public, career-oriented institutions; and

2 WHEREAS, The school's growing enrollment and reputation necessitated a permanent
3 location, and Morris Gaebe and Edward Triangolo purchased Johnson & Wales' first building,
4 Plantations Hall in Providence in 1962, moving 300 students from rented facilities at Fountain
5 Street into a new home; and

6 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales Junior College of Business, a nonprofit, degree-granting,
7 institution, was incorporated in 1963 to take over the operations of Johnson & Wales School of
8 Business, Inc.; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1970, with enrollment at 900 students, the institution changed its name to
10 Johnson & Wales College and was authorized by the State of Rhode Island to confer
11 baccalaureate and honorary degrees; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1973, the college began transforming a former World War II Liberty Ship
13 shipyard located along Narragansett Bay into a school to teach culinary arts, an area that would
14 eventually grow to become the school's Harborside Campus; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1980, the Governor and General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island
16 granted a legislative charter authorizing the college to award advanced degrees; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1984, a regional campus was established in Charleston, South Carolina,
18 which offered a variety of two and four-year programs in food service, hospitality and travel-
19 tourism; and

20 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales opened its graduate school on the Harborside Campus in
21 1985, eventually growing to offer master's degrees in business, teacher education and criminal
22 justice, and a doctorate in educational leadership; and

23 WHEREAS, The university opened a Norfolk, Virginia, campus in 1986, offering one
24 and two-year food service programs; and

25 WHEREAS, In 1988, Johnson & Wales answered a growing need across all industries
26 with the establishment of a School of Technology; and

27 WHEREAS, With the approval of the State of Rhode Island, in 1988, Johnson & Wales
28 College was renamed Johnson & Wales University to reflect its status as a full university; and

29 WHEREAS, The university formally established the College of Business, the Hospitality
30 College, the College of Culinary Arts, the School of Technology and the School of Arts &
31 Sciences in Providence in 1991; and

32 WHEREAS, In 1992, the university opened another campus in North Miami, Florida,
33 offering culinary arts, business and hospitality undergraduate degree programs; and

34 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University established the first bachelor's degree program

1 in culinary arts in the country in 1993; and

2 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales, earned regional accreditation through the Commission on
3 Institutions of Higher Education (CH-IE) of the New England Association of Schools & Colleges,
4 Inc. (NEAS&C) in 1994; and

5 WHEREAS, In September of 2000, the university opened a Denver, Colorado campus,
6 offering undergraduate degrees in culinary arts, hospitality and business; and

7 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University consolidated its Norfolk, Virginia, and
8 Charleston, South Carolina, campuses and opened a campus in Charlotte, North Carolina in the
9 fall of 2004, offering undergraduate degree programs in business, culinary arts and hospitality;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University invested more than \$200 million in the
12 construction of new facilities and renovations to existing facilities on its two Providence
13 campuses between 2000 and 2009; and

14 WHEREAS, In February of 2012, during a time of increasing economic instability in the
15 City of Providence, Johnson & Wales University was the first institution of higher education in
16 Providence to step forward and increase its payments in lieu of taxes to the city, with university
17 leaders stating "we cannot be a successful institution in a failing city"; and

18 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University employs 561 faculty and 1,036 staff members
19 for a total of 1,597 employees in Rhode Island making it among the top private employers in the
20 state in 2014; and

21 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University students at the Providence Campus perform
22 more than 150,000 hours of community service annually; and

23 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University has been named to the President's Higher
24 Education Community Service Honor Roll each year since it was established in 2006; and

25 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University was named one of "81 Great Schools with
26 Outstanding Community Involvement" by The Princeton Review's Colleges with a Conscience;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Since its founding, Johnson & Wales University's student body has grown
29 from one student its first year in Providence to more than 16,000 undergraduate students and 984
30 graduate students across four states in 2014; and

31 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Johnson & Wales University has accepted many
32 first-generation students, opening the opportunity for a higher education to thousands of
33 applicants; and

34 WHEREAS, Johnson & Wales University continues to produce highly qualified and

1 exceptional graduates, respected as leaders in their fields and industries locally, nationally and
2 internationally; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED , That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
4 hereby encourages and supports the efforts of Johnson & Wales University to commemorate and
5 celebrate the 100th Anniversary of its founding; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby conveys its collective wishes for continued
7 innovation in education, enduring contributions to the state and service to the community; and be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby welcomes this centennial celebration as an
10 opportunity to celebrate Johnson & Wales University's accomplishments, consider the Johnson &
11 Wales University of today, and imagine Johnson & Wales University's future in the 21st century
12 and beyond; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, and
15 the Chancellor and President of Johnson & Wales University.

=====
LC005849
=====