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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015**

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**SENATE RESOLUTION**

**PROCLAIMING JULY 25TH THROUGH JULY 31ST, 2015, TO BE "WATERWAY  
AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, Satchell, Felag, Walaska, and Pichardo

Date Introduced: January 13, 2015

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, The stewardship and conservation of Rhode Island's rivers, lakes, and  
2 coastal waters is of vital importance and is the responsibility of all our state's citizenry; and

3           WHEREAS, According to a 2012 study by the Environment Rhode Island Research &  
4 Policy Center and co-authored by the Frontier Group, 226 million pounds of toxic chemicals were  
5 discharged into 1,400 waterways across the United States in 2010; and

6           WHEREAS, Rhode Island ranked second best only to Arizona with less than 1000 total  
7 pounds of toxins released, making our state's waterways second cleanest in the nation when  
8 measured by the total volume of discharged toxic chemicals; and

9           WHEREAS, Continuing our efforts to clean and protect the Ocean State's waterways is  
10 essential and an increase in public awareness about the importance and beauty of our waterways  
11 will better serve and motivate the citizens of our state to protect the future of these precious  
12 natural resources; now, therefore be it

13           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
14 hereby proclaims the week of July 25th through the 31st, 2015, to be "Waterway Awareness  
15 Week." We furthermore call upon all the people of the state to observe this week with appropriate  
16 programs, activities, and ceremonies; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby recognizes and supports the noble efforts of  
18 students from Birchwood Middle School in helping to bring awareness to the importance of  
19 maintaining the purity of our state's waterways; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit  
2   duly certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Department of Environmental  
3   Management, and Mr. Steven P. Clarke, Principal of Birchwood Middle School.

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