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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE RHODE  
ISLAND HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES COALITION

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Paiva Weed, Walaska, Lynch, and Picard

Date Introduced: March 25, 2015

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition was  
2 organized and began meeting three decades ago to advocate for maternal and child health; and

3           WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Chapter of the March of Dimes and the Rhode Island  
4 Department of Health co-founded the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition in 1985; and

5           WHEREAS, The mission of the Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition  
6 is to promote the health and well-being of mothers and their babies across the Ocean State; and

7           WHEREAS, The coalition has grown and its members now include, the American  
8 Academy of Pediatrics, Family Service of RI, Lifespan, the March of Dimes, the Neighborhood  
9 Health Plan of RI, Newport Hospital, Providence Community Health Centers, The RI Alliance,  
10 the Rhode Island Department of Health, the Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Salve  
11 Regina University - Department of Nursing, Women & Infants Hospital, the VNS of Newport/  
12 Bristol Counties, and many others; and

13           WHEREAS, The coalition, centering its efforts on education and advocacy to reduce  
14 maternal and infant mortality and morbidity, has sponsored statewide forums on important topics  
15 such as: pregnancy, prenatal care, substance abuse and pregnancy, the plight of poor women and  
16 children, the importance of fathers, and communication skills; and

17           WHEREAS, Volunteers from the March of Dimes and the Healthy Mothers, Healthy  
18 Babies Coalition have gathered at the State House to advocate for legislation promoting healthy  
19 pregnancies and healthy births; and

1           WHEREAS, The coalition's continued good work, commitment, and efforts in the fight  
2 for healthy birth outcomes and against prematurity is evident. Their advocacy has been relentless  
3 and their commitment to maternal and child health is clear; now, therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
5 hereby encourages and supports the efforts of the Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies  
6 Coalition and joins them in commemorating and celebrating the 30th Anniversary of its founding;  
7 and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby conveys its collective wishes for continued success  
9 in promoting the health and well-being of mothers and their babies across the Ocean State; and be  
10 it further

11          RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby welcomes this 30th Anniversary celebration of the  
12 Coalition's founding as an opportunity to celebrate the organization's accomplishments, and to  
13 consider the Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of today, and imagine its  
14 future in the 21st century and beyond; and be it further

15          RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
16 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Gina Raimondo, Governor of the  
17 State of Rhode Island, and the Rhode Island Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition.

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