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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE FRIARS MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM ON
WINNING THE 2015 NCAA MEN'S HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey, Paiva Weed, and Algieri

Date Introduced: April 15, 2015

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Providence College Men's Hockey Team, under the superb leadership
2 and direction provided by Head Coach Nate Leaman, compiled an outstanding 21-12-2 regular
3 season record and finished tied for second in the Hockey East standings. The Friars were aided all
4 season by the outstanding goaltending provided by Goalie Jon Gillies, who was a Hockey East
5 First Team All Star and the Stop It Goaltending Champion, and the hard-nosed play provided by
6 Noel Acciari, The Hockey East Gladiator Best Defensive Forward of the Year, Forward Shane
7 Luke, and Defenseman Tom Parisi, all of whom were named to the All-Regional Team. Noel
8 Acciari was also named the Most Outstanding Player of the Regional; and

9 WHEREAS, The Friars hockey team was rewarded for their excellent hockey season by
10 being chosen to play in the NCAA Hockey Tournament. They were seeded fourth in the East
11 Regional played at the Dunkin Donuts Center in Providence. After dispatching one-seeded Miami
12 of Ohio in the first game, the Friars beat Denver 4-1 in the Regional Finals to advance to the
13 Frozen Four in Boston; and

14 WHEREAS, In the NCAA Frozen Four Semi-Finals, the Friars thoroughly outplayed the
15 Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks on their way to winning 4-1 and advancing to their first NCAA
16 Hockey Championship game in thirty years. The Friars outshot Nebraska-Omaha 48-26 and
17 dominated the puck possession statistics as they controlled the game for all three periods; and

18 WHEREAS, In the NCAA Championship game, the Providence College Friars defeated
19 the heavily favored Boston University Terriers in a thrilling game by the score of 4-3. In a see-

1 saw back and forth battle, with numerous lead changes, the Friars emerged victorious 4-3 to win
2 their first ever NCAA Hockey Championship thanks to the key goal scoring provided by Anthony
3 Florentino, Mark Jankowski, Tom Parisi and Brandon Tanev, along with the superb and clutch
4 goaltending provided by Providence Goalie Jon Gillies, the Frozen Four MVP, who stopped 49
5 Boston University shots, including a miraculous save late in the game that saved the win for
6 Providence College; and

7 WHEREAS, The Providence College Men’s Hockey Team were able to win a national
8 championship this season because they were blessed to have a team of young men completely
9 focused and driven to achieve team goals, even if they came at the expense of individual goals.
10 The Friars benefitted all season from the key contributions provided by Captains Noel Acciari
11 and Ross Mauermann, along with the exemplary play provided by Nick Saracino, Shane Luke,
12 Trevor Mingoia, Mark Jankowski, Brandon Tanev, Tom Parisi, Brian Pinho, Jake Walman, Kevin
13 Rooney, Steven McParland, Anthony Florentino, John Gilmour, Josh Monk, Brooks Behling,
14 Kyle McKenzie, Mark Adams, Logan Day, Niko Rufo, Robbie Hennessey, Stefan Demopoulos,
15 Brendan Leahy, Nick Ellis, Conor MacPhee, Truman Reed, Drew Brown, Alex Cromwell, and
16 Jon Gillies. The Friars were also the beneficiaries all season of an exemplary coaching staff led
17 by Head Coach Nate Leaman, along with Associate Head Coach Steve Miller, Assistant Coach
18 Kris Mayotte, Kyle Murphy, Coordinator of Men’s Hockey Operations, and Goaltending Coach
19 Jim McNiff; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
21 hereby congratulates the Providence College Men’s Hockey Team on winning the 2015 NCAA
22 Men’s Hockey Championship; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
24 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Providence College Men’s Hockey Head Coach
25 Nate Leaman.

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