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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY 6, 2015, TO BE "CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL DAY" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Nesselbush, Walaska, Metts, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: May 05, 2015

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Education is the gateway to a brighter future for our children and nation.
2 During National Charter Public Schools Week we celebrate charter schools' commitment to
3 academic achievement, accountability, and innovation. We recognize the vital role charter
4 schools play in fostering an America where children have the knowledge and skills they need to
5 grow, succeed, and achieve their dreams; and

6 WHEREAS, As a publically-funded alternative to traditional public schools, charter
7 schools have expanded our understanding of public education by embracing the spirit of
8 discovery and providing innovative avenues for success; and

9 WHEREAS, Since the 1995 passage of Rhode Island's charter public schools enabling
10 legislation, twenty-one charter schools have been established serving over 6,400 students from
11 across the state; and

12 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are independent public schools of choice that are free
13 to be innovative and are accountable for student achievement; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, Rhode Island charter public schools primarily serve urban areas,
15 and face the challenges of poverty at a higher than average rate. Yet, these schools continue to be
16 among the strongest in the state; and

17 WHEREAS, Charter public schools provide an alternative public education to students
18 who desire a different learning environment than that provided by traditional public schools.
19 Charter public schools provide Rhode Island parents and students their only public school choice

1 option; and

2 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are designed to deliver programs tailored to
3 educational excellence and community need; and

4 WHEREAS, Because they are public schools of choice, they are open to the public,
5 funded by the public, and are accountable to the public; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode and Providence Plantations hereby
7 proclaims May 6, 2015 to be "Charter Public Schools Day" in the State of Rhode Island, and
8 recognizes the achievement of our twenty-one charter public schools; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Principals/Directors of Rhode Island's
11 twenty-one charter public schools.

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