

2016 -- H 8261

=====
LC006003
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING WOONSOCKET AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER ON
BEING THE FIRST CAREER AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES TO
OFFER LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT TRAINING TO ITS STUDENTS**

Introduced By: Representatives Phillips, Morin, Casey, Newberry, and Keable

Date Introduced: May 26, 2016

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Lead is a metal that is most often found in old houses because, before 1978,
2 most paint products contained lead. Lead can get into the body by ingesting it, breathing in dust
3 from lead paint, drinking tap water that has lead in it or eating food from dishes made with lead.
4 Lead is most dangerous to children under the age of six. Children suffering from lead poisoning
5 can suffer from serious consequences including learning disabilities, loss of IQ, and reduced
6 attention span; and

7 WHEREAS, Nationally, approximately 900,000 preschoolers have high levels of lead in
8 their blood. Locally, around 30,000 homes pose a high risk of lead poisoning to children and in
9 Woonsocket, a study released in 2004 found that forty percent of incoming first graders had
10 elevated lead counts; and

11 WHEREAS, Charles Myers, a teacher at Woonsocket Area Career and Technical Center,
12 won the Teacher of the Year Award in 2004, the very year the lead paint poisoning statistics in
13 Woonsocket were released. He was stunned and staggered by those numbers and vowed to
14 someday try to do something about this problem; and

15 WHEREAS, For the past three years, Mr. Myers has been working with the Rhode Island
16 Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency to bring the Lead
17 Renovator/Remodeler license course to his students. This program teaches contractors how to do
18 work in homes with lead paint without contaminating the occupants or the building itself; and

19 WHEREAS, This year, during the school's vacation week, Mr. Myers offered this course

1 to his students in a specially designed two-day program that included extensive hands-on-
2 training. At the end of the two-day program, the students, Christian Amparo, Andrew
3 Baillargeon, Evan Batholomy, Nicholas Beals, Zachary Burt, Damian Darling, Adam Guilbert,
4 Jacob Larivee and Cesar Fajardo passed the same exam adult contractors take when seeking
5 certification; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
7 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates Woonsocket Area Career and Technical Center on
8 becoming the first career and technical school in the United States to offer lead paint abatement
9 training to its students; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Charles Myers, Teacher, Woonsocket Area
12 Career and Technical Center.

=====
LC006003
=====