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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CONGRATULATING THE RHODE ISLAND RIVERS COUNCIL ON THE OCCASION OF
ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY**

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, McCaffrey, Lynch Prata, Paiva Weed, and Walaska

Date Introduced: January 13, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Water is beneficial and vital to all life and in the immortal words of Henry
2 David Thoreau, "Who hears the rippling of rivers will not utterly despair of anything"; and

3 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Rivers Council was established by the Rhode Island
4 General Assembly in 1991. Over the ensuing twenty-five years this fine organization has been
5 managing efforts to improve the quality of our state's rivers and their watersheds, and developing
6 and strengthening the unity of all local watershed councils; and

7 WHEREAS, Through state-wide coordination, diligent oversight, and strenuous review
8 efforts, the Rhode Island Rivers Council has produced vast improvements and formed beneficial
9 partnerships for preserving the quality of our rivers and other water bodies. The council sets
10 policy, goals and guidance for ten "local watershed councils" within the state; and

11 WHEREAS, One such example of the Council's coordinated efforts is with the Buckeye
12 Brook Coalition, a nonprofit corporation which was founded in 2002, and their application was
13 accepted in 2004 to become a local watershed council. The Coalition works to protect, preserve,
14 and restore Buckeye Brook, its watershed, and its self-sustaining herring run; and

15 WHEREAS, In addition to the Buckeye Brook Coalition, the Rivers Council supports and
16 strengthens the efforts of nine additional state designated local watershed councils including, the
17 Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone, the Friends of the Moshassuck,
18 Kickemuit River Council, the Narrow River Preservation Association, the Pawtuxet River
19 Authority & Watershed Council, the Salt Ponds Coalition, the Ten Mile River Watershed

1 Council, Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association, and the Woonasquatucket River Watershed
2 Council; and

3 WHEREAS, Through public awareness and education programs and initiatives, the
4 Rhode Island Rivers Council has been brightening and preserving our rivers for future
5 generations of Rhode Islanders to enjoy; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby commends and honors the Rhode Island Rivers Council for its devotion to improving
8 Rhode Island's most treasured asset. We furthermore congratulate its membership, both past and
9 present, on the occasion of their 25th Anniversary and know that they will continue to work to
10 ensure a sparkling tomorrow for all Rhode Islanders; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Chair of the Rhode Island Rivers Council.

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