

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 2, 2016, TO BE "HOMELESS AWARENESS DAY" IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, Paiva Weed, Pichardo, Lombardo, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: May 11, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Rhode Island "Homeless Awareness Day" is a day to raise awareness about
2 homelessness, its dangers, its difficulties, its causes, and its effects; and

3 WHEREAS, Individuals of all ages and every race as well as entire families can
4 experience homelessness. Dangerous weather, limited or no access to clean clothes, affordable
5 shelter, food and even water are but a few of the obstacles they face on a daily basis; and

6 WHEREAS, Due to the overwhelming struggles faced by the homeless, the average age
7 of death for a homeless person is 47, as compared to the average age of 77 for the general
8 population; and

9 WHEREAS, Homelessness is not a choice. It can be caused by myriad events such as
10 losing one's job, a lack of affordable housing, lack of healthcare or overwhelming healthcare
11 costs, and mental health and addiction issues; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 4,000 people, including families and children, are homeless in
13 Rhode Island; and

14 WHEREAS, Awareness, attention, and action can reduce the stigma and myths
15 surrounding homelessness and can help to reduce the number of homeless in our state; now,
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
18 hereby proclaims November 2, 2016, to be "Homeless Awareness Day" in our state. We
19 furthermore urge all the citizens of this state to observe this occasion by taking time to learn more

1 about the plight of the homeless in our state and to reflect on what you can do to lend a helping
2 hand to those in need; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby commends the students of DelSesto Middle School
4 for helping to raise awareness and encourage support for those who are homeless within our state;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
7 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ryan Connole, DelSesto Middle School.

=====
LC005849
=====