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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUMBERLAND
SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Introduced By: Senators Pearson, and Picard

Date Introduced: May 03, 2017

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Fifty years ago, in 1967, Margaret-Ann Gardner, Barbara Chase, Wendy
2 Leicht, Rose Rockwell, and others brought forward a proposal to allow volunteers to help in the
3 classroom. The initial response from one school committee member in 1967 was "No Civilians in
4 our schools." From these humble beginnings the organization now known as the Cumberland
5 School Volunteers has grown to become today, fifty years later, an integral positive force within
6 the Cumberland Schools; and

7 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Cumberland School Volunteers has had thousands of
8 parents assisting teachers in the school classrooms and has had hundreds of board members.
9 Often, it begins with a parent volunteering at their child's first school, and remaining in the
10 program until the child graduates from high school in the district. Some also choose to continue
11 volunteering after their child has finished high school; and

12 WHEREAS, The Cumberland School Volunteers run a myriad of programs including
13 "Reading is Fundamental", which allows elementary school students to pick out free, new books
14 of their choice, and "Just Friends" an initiative that teaches 4th grade students about peers with
15 physical and intellectual disabilities. They also have a program that awards high school students
16 who have done a significant amount of community service work; and

17 WHEREAS, For the past fifty years, the Cumberland School Volunteers have made a
18 positive impact on the lives of countless Cumberland School students, teachers, and parents.
19 Their volunteers work tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of children and the dedicated

1 and devoted service provided by current and past volunteers will be commemorated with a
2 celebration on May 4th, 2017, in honor of the Cumberland School Volunteers 50th Anniversary;
3 now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby joyously celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Cumberland School Volunteers; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Mary Anne Roll, Director, Cumberland
9 School Volunteers.

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