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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 12 THROUGH MAY 18, 2019, TO BE "SENIOR  
CORPS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Satchell, Ruggerio, Felag, Cano, and Coyne

Date Introduced: May 14, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Americans are living longer, achieving more and taking on new roles after  
2 decades of hard work to ensure opportunity for the generations that follow; and

3 WHEREAS, Our grateful nation recognizes the contributions of seniors during the month  
4 of May, which has been designated as Older Americans Month; and

5 WHEREAS, Older Americans bring a lifetime of skills and experiences that can be  
6 tapped to meet the many challenges facing our nation's communities; and

7 WHEREAS, For more than five decades, the three Senior Corps programs – Foster  
8 Grandparents, Senior Companions, and RSVP – have proven to be a highly cost-effective way to  
9 engage Americans age 55 and over in volunteer service that meets pressing community needs;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Last year in Rhode Island, Foster Grandparents tutored and mentored 1,710  
12 young people, Senior Companions helped 380 seniors live independently, and RSVP volunteers  
13 strengthened the impact of 160 organizations across the state; and

14 WHEREAS, Each year Senior Corps provides opportunities for 245,000 older Americans  
15 to serve their communities across the nation at nearly 25,000 unique sites across the country; and

16 WHEREAS, Nationally, Senior Corps volunteers last year provided more than 74.6  
17 million hours of service, improving the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, strengthening our  
18 education system, helping seniors live independently in their homes, protecting our environment,  
19 combatting the opioid epidemic, and preventing elder abuse; and

1           WHEREAS, At a time of mounting social needs and growing interest in service by older  
2 Americans, our nation has an unprecedented opportunity to harness the talents of 55-plus aged  
3 volunteers to address additional community challenges; and

4           WHEREAS, Service by older Americans keeps them active, healthy, and engaged. It  
5 helps our communities by solving local problems; and helps our nation by saving taxpayer  
6 dollars, reducing health care costs, and strengthening our democracy; and

7           WHEREAS, Senior Corps volunteers demonstrate commitment, dedication, and  
8 patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, a commitment that makes a lasting  
9 impact on the individuals and communities they serve; now, therefore be it

10          RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
11 hereby proclaims the week of May 12 through May 18, 2019, to be "Senior Corps Week" in the  
12 State of Rhode Island; and be it further

13          RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby urges other officials, organizations, and citizens to  
14 recognize Senior Corps volunteers and programs for their commitment to our communities; and  
15 be it further

16          RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Barbara Stewart, Chief Executive Officer  
18 for National and Community Service.

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