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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING DR. DAVID DOOLEY ON HIS RETIREMENT AS THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, and Sosnowski

Date Introduced: June 24, 2021

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island President Dr. David Dooley will be retiring  
2 from his position in June of 2021. His tireless work ethic, inspiring leadership abilities, abiding  
3 integrity, and collegial personality will be sorely missed by all of his colleagues and the students  
4 at the University of Rhode Island. He was an effective and passionate advocate for the University  
5 and our State; and

6           WHEREAS, President Dooley earned a B.A. in Chemistry from the University of  
7 California in San Diego, and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology.  
8 He began his distinguished professional career in education in 1978, when he attained a position  
9 as an Assistant Professor within the Department of Chemistry at Amherst College. He became an  
10 Associate Professor in 1984, and became a full Professor in 1989. He served as Chairman of the  
11 Department of Chemistry at Amherst College from 1986 to 1989, and 1991 to 1993; and

12           WHEREAS, President Dooley was also a Visiting Scientist at the Massachusetts Institute  
13 of Technology in 1981, and a Visiting Scholar at Stanford in 1982. He served on the Associate  
14 Faculty, Molecular and Cellular Biology Program, at the University of Massachusetts, from 1984  
15 to 1986, and with the Graduate Faculty, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology,  
16 University of Massachusetts, from 1986 to 1993; and

17           WHEREAS, From 1993 to 1999, President Dooley was selected as the Head of the  
18 Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Montana State University. From 1999 to 2001, he  
19 was the Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Montana State University

1 and was selected in 2001 to be the permanent Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at  
2 Montana State University; and

3 WHEREAS, On July 1, 2009, the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education  
4 selected Dr. Dooley to be the 11th President of the University of Rhode Island. President Dooley,  
5 known for his collaborative leadership style, attention to detail, and focus on problem solving,  
6 spent much of his time and energy during his twelve years as President on educational excellence,  
7 inclusion and equity, research growth, business engagement, and community outreach, all of  
8 which are hallmarks of his highly praised tenure; and

9 WHEREAS, In recognition of his leadership and vast expertise on issues related to higher  
10 education and research, President Dooley has been asked to serve on numerous regional, national  
11 and international boards and committees. These include his appointment as CEO and Co-Chair  
12 for the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Board on Oceans, Atmosphere, and  
13 Climate (BOAC) for 2015-2016, and his nomination for a second two-year term on the Homeland  
14 Security Advisory Council (HSAAC). In 2012, he was named a Fellow of the Council of the  
15 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby congratulates  
17 President Dooley on his retirement and thanks him for all of his hard work and devoted service on  
18 behalf of the University of Rhode Island and the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
20 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Dr. David Dooley, President of the University  
21 of Rhode Island.

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