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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING DR. ROSEMARY A. COSTIGAN, PH.D., RN, ON HER SELECTION
AS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Tikoian, Burke, Gallo, Raptakis, Sosnowski, Appollonio,
Lawson, Gu, Thompson, and Britto
Date Introduced: June 20, 2025

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, On June 18, 2025, Dr. Rosemary Costigan was unanimously selected by the
2 Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education to be the 6th President of the Community
3 College of Rhode Island. She holds the distinction of being the first alumna and second-ever
4 woman to serve as the College's President; and

5 WHEREAS, Upon graduating from Pawtucket West High School, the Nursing Program
6 at CCRI, and Rhode Island College, Dr. Costigan began her career at the Community College of
7 RI teaching and mentoring nursing students as a faculty member and subsequently as Department
8 Chair; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Costigan's career advanced as she was named Assistant Dean of Nursing
10 Education, soon followed by Vice President for Academic Affairs, and in September of 2023,
11 was named Interim President of CCRI. She currently holds an Associate Degree in Nursing from
12 CCRI, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Rhode Island College, and both a Master of
13 Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from the University of Rhode Island; and

14 WHEREAS, Over the past two years, during Dr. Costigan's tenure serving as Interim
15 President, she is credited with leading the College through a period of growth and transformation,
16 earning a 10-year reaccreditation from the New England Commission of Higher Education, and
17 with securing the largest private donation for the College, to name but a few of her outstanding
18 achievements; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Costigan's successes have not simply been the result of good fortune,

1 but have, moreover, been due to her commitment, talents, intellectual aptitude, and her focus on
2 advancing access, equity, and excellence in higher education; and

3 WHEREAS, Earning the respect of her peers, Dr. Costigan has been recognized as a
4 "deeply experienced administrator with decades of teaching experience" whose long list of
5 accomplishments and lifelong commitment to CCRI are powerful assets; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Costigan has been inducted into the CCRI Society of Knights in 2016,
7 named one of Providence Business News' Business Women of the Year in 2024, and received
8 both the Rosemary Wood Nursing Leadership Award and the Academic Excellence Award from
9 the Hospital Association of Rhode Island. She is truly a paradigm of the very best leadership
10 qualities and is eminently worthy of our praise and acknowledgement; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby congratulates
12 Rosemary Costigan on her inauguration as President of the Community College of Rhode Island.
13 We furthermore wish her continued success, fulfillment, and good health; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Rosemary Costigan, Ph.D., RN.

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