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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

COMMEMORATING THE 46TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF GASPEE DAYS

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, Flaherty, Watson, Ferri, and Bennett

Date Introduced: May 05, 2011

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The burning of the HMS Gaspee was one of the boldest and most colorful
2 incidents in the War for American Independence. On the night of June 9, 1772, Rhode Islanders
3 captured and destroyed the schooner HMS Gaspee, the last of the hated British vessels that had
4 harassed Rhode Island since the days of the Stamp Act. This act of defiance off Namquid Point
5 was the supreme act of protest against the tyranny of the British Crown, and provided a strong
6 impetus to the movement of the American colonies toward independence; and

7 WHEREAS, The burning of the Gaspee led to the formation of the Committee of
8 Correspondence, the Continental Congress, and, eventually, to the Declaration of Independence.
9 Two hundred and thirty-nine years later, the memory of this incendiary act still fires the hearts
10 and minds of the residents of historic Pawtuxet Village; and

11 WHEREAS, Legislation was enacted by the General Assembly to designate the second
12 Saturday and the following Sunday in the month of June each year as days of special observance
13 to be known as Gaspee Days; and

14 WHEREAS, On the afternoon of Thursday, May 5, 2011, the Gaspee Days Committee
15 will be launching this year's commemoration of the event with its annual Proclamation Ceremony
16 in the State House Rotunda; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
18 Providence Plantations hereby commemorates the opening of the 46th annual celebration of
19 Gaspee Days. This House, moreover, urges the patriotic citizens of the Ocean State to participate
20 fully in the festivities honoring this momentous event in the history of our state and the nation;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Proclamation Chairman of the Gaspee Days
4 Committee.

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