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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS END THEIR IMPASSE AND REACH A DEAL TO FUND THE GOVERNMENT

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, and McCaffrey

Date Introduced: January 16, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Since December 22 of 2018, the United States Government has been
2 partially closed due to an impasse between President Trump and the United States Congress,
3 affecting nine executive departments, one-fourth of government activities, and 800,000 thousand
4 federal employees, including hundreds of Rhode Islanders. The current impasse has surpassed the
5 twenty-three day shutdown of 1995-1996; and

6 WHEREAS, Important agencies negatively impacted by the shutdown include Food and
7 Safety inspections and oversight with ninety-five percent of the USDA's Food and Nutrition
8 Services being furloughed. Many of our national parks and national museums have been forced to
9 operate without staff and with the closing of all buildings. At Yosemite National Park, a death
10 due to a fall went unreported for a week due to the lack of staff. Additionally, many airline and
11 aircraft safety workers have been furloughed and our nation's air traffic controllers are currently
12 working without pay; and

13 WHEREAS, According to a study by WalletHub, Rhode Island is the 11th most affected
14 state in the nation by the shutdown and the most impacted state in New England. Sadly, 42,000
15 Coast Guard service personnel, including many Rhode Islanders, are currently not getting paid
16 and are struggling to pay bills and put food on the table. The workers for Rhode Island companies
17 that build ships for the Coast Guard are also not getting paid; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
19 hereby respectfully requests that the President of the United States and the United States

1 Congress come together and do what's best for our nation by reaching a deal to end the current
2 partial federal government shutdown; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
4 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, Donald J.
5 Trump, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, the Majority
6 Leader of the United States Senate, Mitch McConnell, and the Rhode Island delegation to the
7 United States Congress.

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