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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION
CONVENE A TASK FORCE WITH THE GOAL OF ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTING
THE CREATION OF THE QUAHOG CUP, AN ANNUAL COLLEGIATE BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT AMONG BROWN UNIVERSITY, BRYANT UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND TO SUPPORT A SCHOLARSHIP
FUND FOR RHODE ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ATTEND COLLEGES IN
THE STATE

Introduced By: Senators Conley, Ruggerio, Goodwin, Algieri, and Lynch

Date Introduced: February 05, 2015

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

1 WHEREAS, The opportunity for higher education is critical to the personal success of
2 Rhode Island's high school students and our state's economic future; and

3 WHEREAS, The expense of higher education continues to be an obstacle to Rhode Island
4 high school students acquiring the higher education they want and deserve; and

5 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island takes great pride in the academic aspirations of
6 its high school students; and

7 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island takes great pride in our local universities
8 academic achievement and athletic prowess; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island takes great pride in the community of excellence
10 fostered by its universities; and

11 WHEREAS, The education, fishing, and the hospitality and tourism industries are crucial
12 to the economy of the state; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island takes great pride in our unmatched bounty of
14 seafood and culinary excellence; and

15 WHEREAS, Rhode Island fisheries supply twenty-five percent of the United States' total
16 commercial catch of quahogs making this unique clam a cornerstone of Rhode Island's identity
17 and economy; and

1 WHEREAS, Collegiate athletic competition holds a special place in our community, as it
2 brings people together, fosters relationships, and creates tradition. Collegiate competition is
3 cathartic, and symbolic. It gives pride to many, and it is rarely more meaningful and true than in
4 the thrill of collegiate tournaments; and

5 WHEREAS, The influx of money into collegiate athletics often fails to benefit students;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Our sense of community is never stronger than during the week of
8 Thanksgiving, when friends and family return home to their Rhode Island roots to give thanks;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island is home to four Division I college basketball
11 teams, The Brown University Bears, the Bryant University Bulldogs, The Providence College
12 Friars, and The University of Rhode Island Rams; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island and its many residents, as well as the proud fans,
14 students, faculty, administration, and alumni, of Brown University, Bryant University, Providence
15 College, and the University of Rhode Island, will have a special interest in building a tradition
16 that will promote our state's pride and its tourism and hospitality industries; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
18 hereby respectfully requests the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation to convene a Task Force
19 with the goal of encouraging and supporting the creation of the Quahog Cup, an annual Collegiate
20 Basketball Tournament among Brown University, Bryant University, Providence College, and the
21 University of Rhode Island to support a scholarship fund for Rhode Island High School students
22 to attend colleges in the state; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby respectfully requests that the task force includes
24 representatives from Brown University, Bryant University, Providence College, University of
25 Rhode Island, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Rhode Island, the Office
26 of the Postsecondary Commissioner, a member from the Senate appointed by the Senate
27 President, and a member from the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
28 House; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
30 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation.

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