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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY 4, 2011 AS "CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL DAY" IN THE STATE OF
RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator James E. Doyle

Date Introduced: May 04, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Since the 1995 passage of Rhode Island's charter public schools' enabling
2 legislation, 15 start-up institutions have been established that serve over 3,900 students from 34
3 communities; and

4 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are independent public schools of choice that are free
5 to be innovative and are accountable for student achievement; and

6 WHEREAS, Today, Rhode Island charter public schools primarily serve urban areas and
7 face the challenges of poverty at a higher than average rate. Yet, these schools continue to be
8 among the strongest in the state; and

9 WHEREAS, Charter public schools provide an alternative public education to students
10 who desire a different learning environment than that provided by traditional public schools.
11 Charter schools provide Rhode Island parents and students their only public school choice option;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are designed to deliver programs tailored to
14 educational excellence and community need; and

15 WHEREAS, There is a growing unmet demand for Rhode Island charter public schools
16 as evidenced by a waiting list of over 5,000 students; and

17 WHEREAS, Because they are public schools of choice, they are open to the public,
18 funded by the public, and accountable to the public; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 hereby proclaims May 4, 2011, as “Charter Public School Day” in the State of Rhode Island and
2 recognizes the achievement of our 15 charter public schools; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
4 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Principals/Directors of Rhode Island’s
5 fifteen charter public schools.

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