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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE SECOND TUESDAY IN JANUARY TO BE "PROFESSIONAL PET ASSISTED THERAPY AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Tassoni, and DeVall

Date Introduced: January 10, 2012

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Professional Pet Assisted Therapy (PAT) programs have enhanced the lives
2 of thousands of Rhode Islanders. Credentialed PAT guardians and their credentialed family
3 therapy pets are making positive changes for many Rhode Islanders at hospitals, schools, nursing
4 homes, and other facilities; and

5 WHEREAS, Nationally, Rhode Island is fast becoming the seat of professional pet
6 assisted therapy programs; and

7 WHEREAS, Locally, the D.J. Professional Pet Assisted Therapy Certificate Program has
8 been running successfully at the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) for many years;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The Windwalker Humane Coalition for Professional Pet Assisted Therapy
11 has been advocating for the role of animals in all our lives since 1995, and has provided a major
12 positive influence through credentialing PAT teams, initiating legislation, and countless other
13 initiatives and activities; and

14 WHEREAS, Professional pet assisted therapy leads to healthier and more productive
15 lives for Rhode Islanders, by supporting programs that deal with drug prevention, violence
16 prevention, and enhanced self-esteem and by aiding the achievement of treatment goals; now,
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
19 hereby proclaims the second Tuesday in January to be "Professional Pet Assisted Therapy Day"

1 in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the D.J. Professional Pet Assisted Therapy
4 Program at the Community College of Rhode Island and the Windwalker Humane Coalition.

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