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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

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

**CONGRATULATING THE SSV OLIVER HAZARD PERRY FOR BEING NAMED THE 2022
"SAIL TRAINING PROGRAM OF THE YEAR" BY TALL SHIPS AMERICA**

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Carson, Boylan,
Finkelman, Chippendale, McGaw, Abney, and Casey

Date Introduced: April 04, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Oliver Hazard Perry Rhode Island (OHPRI) is a nonprofit organization that
2 offers the Perry Corps series of programs: Sail Training for the 21st Century; and

3 WHEREAS, Students participate in one of OHPRI Perry Corps training programs which
4 entail spending two weeks aboard the SSV Oliver Hazard Perry in a series of programmatic
5 experiences that provide opportunities in the Blue Economy, particularly the Maritime Industry
6 and Marine Trades, by focusing on vessel familiarization, operations such as navigation, various
7 required skills, as well as academic necessities; and

8 WHEREAS, With funding provided by the RI Department of Education, High School
9 students often preface the Perry Corps onboard program with after-school experience and
10 programs during school vacations with a marine navigation program or marine engineering
11 course; and

12 WHEREAS, The onboard program is meant to inspire the continuing expansion of
13 participants' knowledge and commitment beyond the two weeks spent onboard with a goal
14 towards future courses and training, and ultimately, job placement with major maritime
15 organizations; and

16 WHEREAS, Students who have graduated the program have gone on to enroll in IYRS
17 the School for Marine Systems and Technology, earn their USCG Merchant Mariner Credentials,
18 have enlisted in the United State Coast Guard, have received acceptance to maritime academies,
19 and work aboard the SSV Oliver Hazard Perry; and

1 WHEREAS, In addition, adult participants in the OHPRI Perry Corps training programs
2 primarily begin their experience aboard in a workforce development program funded by the state
3 and targeted to those unemployed and under-employed. The success of this program is evidenced
4 by graduates being placed with maritime organizations including Safe Harbor Marinas, the
5 world’s largest marina operator, and the Hinckley Company; and

6 WHEREAS, OHPRI Perry Corps is addressing the critical labor shortages in the Blue
7 Economy by providing a model for long-term sustainability, and is eminently deserving of the
8 peer recognition, validation, and title of “Sail Training Program of the Year”; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representative of the State of Rhode Island hereby
10 congratulates the SSV Oliver Hazard Perry on being named Sail Training Program of the Year by
11 Tall Ships America. We moreover thank the organization for helping to continue and ensure
12 Rhode Islander’s deep and meaningful relationship with the ocean; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Captain Jonathan T. Kabak, CEO, Oliver
15 Hazard Perry Rhode Island.

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