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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE JOY HEARN ON HER RETIREMENT FROM
THE BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AFTER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED AND
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Introduced By: Representatives Knight, Cassar, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi,
Fogarty, Slater, Ackerman, Kislak, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: June 15, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Joy Hearn, in her exemplary public service career, has
2 served the Barrington Public Schools' community with tireless devotion and enthusiasm in
3 numerous positions including, serving as a Teacher Assistant at Hampden Meadows School,
4 Librarian Assistant at Barrington Middle School, and as Librarian Assistant at Barrington High
5 School for the past fifteen years; and

6 WHEREAS, As Librarian Assistant, Ms. Hearn worked hard to ensure that every student
7 felt welcomed in the library and took a deep interest in their educational interests and the
8 trajectory of their lives. The needs of the students always came first and her passion for the
9 importance of libraries was admired by all of the students, faculty and parents in the Barrington
10 High School community. In recognition of this service, Ms. Hearn was recently recognized by
11 Barrington High School with the Eagle of the Month Award, for “her commitment to improving
12 the culture and learning environment for all Barrington High School students”; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Hearn also served with distinction and integrity as a member of the
14 Rhode Island House of Representatives representing District 66 and the citizens of Barrington
15 and East Providence. During her ten years at the State House, she was a forceful and vigorous
16 advocate for public education. She was a co-sponsor of the School Funding Formula and deeply
17 believed that every student in the State of Rhode Island deserved a quality education; and

18 WHEREAS, In a volunteer capacity, Ms. Hearn served as the President of the Nayatt
19 School PTO, the Barrington Middle School PTO, and as the President of the Barrington

1 Education Foundation. Always concerned about those less fortunate than herself, Ms. Hearn also
2 donated her lunch hours volunteering at the Barrington Food Bank where she helped to unload
3 the food delivery truck and organize food drives to help families in need. Thanks to her
4 leadership, direction and guidance, Barrington High school consistently collected more than 500
5 pounds of food during the annual food drive; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Hearn was also a lifelong advocate of libraries and the crucial role they
7 play in student learning. She served as co-chairperson of the RI Karla Henry Commission on
8 Libraries, and thanks to her leadership, online databases for all Rhode Islanders attained statewide
9 funding. Ms. Hearn also served on the Barrington Public Library Board, and received the
10 Volunteer of the Year award from the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates for her
11 important work rebuilding Barrington Middle School's Library collection; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Hearn believed that an informed person was a better citizen and to
13 further that quest, she passionately encouraged all students and teachers to read the Providence
14 Journal and the New York Times every day. She is a beloved champion for the Barrington Public
15 Schools who has had an enormously positive impact on Barrington students and on the wider
16 community; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
18 congratulates the Honorable Joy Hearn on her retirement from Barrington High School and the
19 Barrington Public Schools after many years of dedicated and distinguished service. We wish her a
20 most happy retirement and continued success in all her future endeavors; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Joy Hearn.

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