

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7TH THROUGH FEBRUARY 14TH TO BE
"CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE
ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Shibley, Ottiano, Kettle, Hodgson, and Algieri

Date Introduced: January 27, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The health and well-being of all children throughout our state are of
2 paramount importance to Rhode Island's families and communities; and

3 WHEREAS, Thousands of children are born with birth defects every year, including
4 approximately 40,000 children in the United States who begin life with one of more than thirty-
5 five identified forms of congenital heart defects; and

6 WHEREAS, Congenital heart defects are among our state's most common birth defects
7 and they are often fatal due to their seriousness, a lack of effective medical intervention options,
8 and the limited availability of infant donor hearts; and

9 WHEREAS, The origins and symptoms of congenital heart defects are becoming more
10 readily identifiable and the range of surgical options are expanding continuously thanks to
11 doctors' and scientists' diligent research efforts and field experiences that extend our body of
12 knowledge every day; and

13 WHEREAS, There is much to learn about the causes of and effective treatments for
14 congenital heart defects, and it is important for parents, pediatricians, and nurses to recognize the
15 warning signs associated with congenital heart defects among newborns so they may provide
16 proper treatment as early as possible; and

17 WHEREAS, Many of Rhode Island's families and communities are directly or indirectly
18 affected by infant illness and death caused by congenital heart defects; now, therefore be it

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

1 hereby proclaims the week of February 7^h – 14th to be “Congenital Heart Defect Awareness
2 Week” in our state. We furthermore urge all the citizens of the state to join us in the observance
3 of this week and to recognize and applaud the efforts of doctors and scientists everywhere who
4 work diligently to solve life’s medical mysteries and to improve the quality of life for us all; and
5 be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
7 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President of the Coventry Town Council
8 and to Stephanie Rastelli and Family.

=====
LC00312
=====