

2011 -- S 0261

LC00871

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING "UNITED WAY 2-1-1 IN RHODE ISLAND" DAY ON
FEBRUARY 11TH, 2011

Introduced By: Senator Juan M. Pichardo

Date Introduced: February 10, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, By dialing 2-1-1, people from Rhode Island to California can access free
2 and confidential social services offered by health and human services providers, government
3 agencies, and community-based organizations. This informational and referral line is available in
4 175 languages and dialects, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the year; and

5 WHEREAS, United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island information referral specialists have
6 access to thousands of agencies and organizations, enabling them to help everyone get access to
7 resources available in their community; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2010, 152,000 calls were received by 2-1-1, an increase of 39,000 calls
9 from 2009 and representing a dramatic uptick in the number of inquiries from Rhode Islanders
10 seeking assistance with rental or mortgage payments, utility payments, and assistance related to a
11 job loss; and

12 WHEREAS, United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island also plays a critical communications role
13 during natural disasters or other state crises evidenced by the 38,000 calls received as a result of
14 the March 2010 flood; 33,000 of those calls were received in 30 days; and

15 WHEREAS, The community as a whole benefits from United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island
16 because this assistance helps people connect with the information they need, when they need it
17 most. United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island increases efficiency by helping callers clearly define
18 their needs and connecting them to the best places to seek help; and

19 WHEREAS, Now, more than ever, it is critically important that Rhode Islanders realize

1 there is help and United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island can be their guide; now, therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
3 hereby declares February 11th of 2011 to be “United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island” Day; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the United Way of Rhode Island.

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