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LC02475

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENDORISING THE STATE'S EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN KNOWN AS  
TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Lanzi, DeVall, and Shibley

Date Introduced: April 28, 2011

Referred To: Senate Education

1 WHEREAS, Education is essential to secure the religious and political freedom  
2 established by our founders, and to transmit the same, unimpaired, to succeeding generations; and

3 WHEREAS, Article XII of the Rhode Island State Constitution specifies that the  
4 diffusion of knowledge, as well as virtue among the people, is essential to the preservation of  
5 their rights and liberties; and

6 WHEREAS, The quality of life and economic well-being of our citizens are assured  
7 through the acquisition of knowledge; and

8 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Education has developed a five-year  
9 strategic plan to endow public school students with the education, abilities, and skills to succeed  
10 in an ever-changing society; and

11 WHEREAS, The strategic plan, known as "Transforming Rhode Island Education," has  
12 five priorities:

13 Ensure Educator Excellence

- 14 • Every student must have highly effective teachers.  
15 • Every school must have a highly effective leader.  
16 • We must support educators throughout their careers.

17 Accelerate All Schools Toward Greatness

- 18 • Rhode Island must not allow failing schools to exist.  
19 • Leadership must be responsible for quality improvement.

1                   • Communities must commit to supporting high-quality schools.

2                   Establish World-Class Standards and Assessments

3                   • Standards must be clear, high, and internationally benchmarked.

4                   • We must hold all educators and students to high expectations.

5                   • We must hold schools accountable for student achievement.

6                   Develop User-Friendly Data Systems

7                   • Everyone must have access to usable data.

8                   • Data must be relevant, timely, and practical.

9                   • Data systems must drive continuous improvement.

10                  Invest Our Resources Wisely

11                  • Financing must be adequate, effective, and equitable.

12                  • We must use incentives to promote efficiencies and effectiveness.

13                  • We must be capable stewards of the taxpayers' investment; now, therefore be it

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

15 hereby commits to preserving and promoting the five priorities embodied in "Transforming

16 Rhode Island Education" and by doing so guarantees the rights for all citizens articulated in the

17 Rhode Island State Constitution and United States Constitution; and be it further

18                  RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to

19 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Rhode Island Board of

20 Regents and the Rhode Island Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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