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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CONGRATULATING THE BOSTON BRUINS ON WINNING THE 2011 NATIONAL
HOCKEY LEAGUE STANLEY CUP**

Introduced By: Senators Tassoni, Picard, and DaPonte

Date Introduced: June 16, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The beloved Boston Bruins, one of the NHL's "Original Six" hockey teams,
2 won their first Stanley Cup since 1972 last night when they thoroughly out-played and out-hit the
3 Vancouver Canucks to win game 7 of the Stanley Cup finals in dominating fashion by the score
4 of 4-0; and

5 WHEREAS, The last time the Bruins won the Stanley Cup, Nixon was in the White
6 House, a war was still being fought in Vietnam, and the Bruins back then were a storied team led
7 by the legendary Bobby Orr, high scoring Phil Esposito, veteran leader Johnny Bucyk, and
8 forwards Wayne Cashman, Ken Hodge, and Derek Sanderson, and goalie Gerry Cheevers, as they
9 defeated the New York Rangers in the NHL Stanley Cup Finals four games to two; and

10 WHEREAS, It is hard to believe that the storied Boston Bruins had not won the Stanley
11 Cup in 39 years before last night, and most observers and prognosticators thought the Bruins win-
12 less Cup streak would continue. No one picked the Bruins to win the Cup before the season
13 started, and in every step of the way during the Stanley Cup Playoffs, the Bruins were considered
14 by many to be the underdog and likely loser; and

15 WHEREAS, What hockey observers missed was that this Bruins team was the hardest-
16 hitting and most determined team in the NHL. They weren't the most skilled or talented team, but
17 they were the hardest working team, and never gave up regardless of the circumstances; and

18 WHEREAS, The Bruins were led in net by veteran Goalie Tim Thomas, the 2009 Vezina
19 Trophy Winner (Best Goalie) and very likely 2011 winner. Thomas had an outstanding 2010-11

1 regular season as he compiled a superb 2.00 Goals Against Average and a sterling 938 Save
2 Percentage. Incredibly, he actually improved on those outstanding numbers in the Stanley Cup
3 Playoffs. In the 2011 Stanley Cup Playoffs, Thomas compiled a 1.98 Goals Against Average and
4 a 940 Save Percentage, and in the Finals Series against Vancouver, he compiled an out-of-this
5 world 967 Save Percentage and set the record for most saves in a single postseason (798) and in a
6 Cup Finals Series (238). For his phenomenal play in the 2011 Stanley Cup Playoffs, Thomas was
7 the obvious choice to receive the Conn Smythe Trophy as the Stanley Cup Playoffs Most
8 Valuable Player. Thomas is just the second American hockey player to receive this prestigious
9 award; and

10 WHEREAS, The Bruins were led on defense by Team Captain and former Norris Trophy
11 (Best Defenseman) winner Zdeno Chara, and Dennis Seidenberg. Chara's leadership and
12 crunching hits set the tone all season for this team. Up front at the forward and center positions,
13 the Bruins were led all season by the steady leadership of Alternate Captains Patrice Bergeron
14 and Mark Recchi, a three-time Stanley Cup Winner, the timely goal-scoring of Nathan Horton
15 and Milan Lucic, the spark-plug play of rookie Bard Marchand, and the calm and steady
16 leadership of Coach Claude Julien; and

17 WHEREAS, The Boston Bruins compiled a strong 46-25-11 record to win the regular
18 season Northeast Division. The Bruins became the first team in NHL history to win three game
19 seven's in the Stanley Cup Playoffs. In the first round, the Bruins fell behind two games to zero to
20 their historic rival, the Montreal Canadiens, only to storm back and win the series in seven games.
21 The Bruins swept the hated Philadelphia Flyers in the second round, and beat the Tampa Bay
22 Lightning in the Conference Finals in seven games. In the Stanley Cup Finals the Bruins once
23 again fell behind, 2 games to zero and 3 games to 2, only to once again storm back and win the
24 Series 4-3. The city of Boston and the New England Region again reign supreme in the sports
25 world; now, therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
27 hereby congratulates the Boston Bruins on winning the 2011 National Hockey League Stanley
28 Cup Championship. We look forward to more Bruins Championships to come in the immediate
29 future; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
31 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Boston Bruins Head Coach Claude Julien and
32 Boston Bruins President Cam Neely.

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