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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING ERNEST A. ALMONTE, CPA, CFE, CFF, CGFM, CITP, ON HIS 15
YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS AUDITOR GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF
RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Paiva-Weed, Ruggerio, Tassoni, Algieri, and Walaska

Date Introduced: January 27, 2010

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Ernest (Ernie) A. Almonte, CPA, CFE, CFF, CGFM, CITP, has served with
2 distinction as the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations' Auditor General for more
3 than 15 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Ernie has not only preserved, but also enhanced, the reputation of the Office
5 of the Auditor General, a widely respected government audit agency serving the General
6 Assembly and the public with independent, nonpartisan information on the operations of state and
7 local government; and

8 WHEREAS, Ernie has upheld and embraced the core values of the Office of the Auditor
9 General—integrity, reliability, independence, and accountability in accomplishing the mission of
10 the Office of the Auditor General; and

11 WHEREAS, During Ernie's tenure as Auditor General, he has overseen the release of
12 hundreds of audit reports that have improved accountability, enhanced transparency, and resulted
13 in cost savings and other efficiencies within state government operations and local municipal
14 operations; and

15 WHEREAS, His leadership as the Auditor General has enabled the Office of the Auditor
16 General to assist Rhode Island's municipalities in improving their finances and complying with
17 the general laws of the state, guiding them through fiscal challenges both large and small, and
18 ultimately helping them achieve fiscal stability; and

19 WHEREAS, Ernie is recognized as a national leader in the accounting profession through

1 his service to the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts (AICPA), where he most
2 recently served as Chairman of the Board and held other leadership positions; and

3 WHEREAS, Ernie has been a charismatic and energetic local leader in the accounting
4 profession, having served on the Board of Directors and as President of the Rhode Island Society
5 of Certified Public Accountants, the Rhode Island Government Finance Officers Association, and
6 the Rhode Island Chapter of Certified Fraud Examiners; and

7 WHEREAS, Ernie has also lent his considerable leadership skills to many other
8 organizations, including the National State Auditors Association, the New England
9 Intergovernmental Audit Forum, and the Rhode Island Employer Support of the Guard and
10 Reserve; and

11 WHEREAS, Ernie has been the recipient of numerous awards related to the performance
12 of his duties as Auditor General, including the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council's Robert
13 M. Goodrich Distinguished Public Service Award, the Department of Army Outstanding Civilian
14 Service Medal, and the Giovanni da Verazzano Man of the Year Award for Outstanding Service
15 to the Rhode Island Community. He has also been named by *Accounting Today* as one of the Top
16 Most Influential People in the Accounting Profession in 2005 and 2008; and

17 WHEREAS, Ernie was a member of Bryant University's Class of 1978, and later earned
18 a Master's of Science degree in Taxation from Bryant University; and

19 WHEREAS, Bryant University conferred an honorary Doctor of Business Administration
20 degree upon Ernie in 2009; and

21 WHEREAS, Ernie advanced his governmental training through completion of the Senior
22 Executives in State and Local Government and Innovations in Governance programs at Harvard
23 University's John F. Kennedy School of Government; and

24 WHEREAS, Ernie became a Certified Public Accountant in 1981. He later achieved
25 recognition as a Certified Fraud Examiner, a Certified Information Technology Professional, and
26 a Certified Government Financial Manager, and became Certified in Financial Forensics; and

27 WHEREAS, Ernie is the devoted husband of Kathy and loving father of Christopher,
28 David, Stephen, Ryan, and Patrick; now, therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
30 hereby congratulates Ernest A. Almonte on his completion of fifteen years of exemplary service
31 as the State of Rhode Island's Auditor General. This Senate wishes Ernie many years of
32 continued professional success and prosperity, as well as health, happiness, and continued good
33 fortune as he rejoins the practice of public accounting within the private sector; and be it further

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

- 1 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ernest A. Almonte.

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