

2010 -- S 2769

LC02393

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

JOINT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING RHODE ISLAND'S MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM

Introduced By: Senator Rhoda E. Perry

Date Introduced: April 07, 2010

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, On April 7, 2010, Rhode Island's community mental health and addiction
2 treatment providers will host the ir first annual "Rhode Island Behavioral Health Day"; and

3 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's mental health and addiction treatment organizations have
4 been providing prevention and treatment services to Rhode Islanders in need for over 30 years;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's mental health and addiction treatment organizations play an
7 essential role in their communities by working with primary care practitioners, pediatricians, law
8 enforcement, hospitals, our criminal justice system, schools, and other partner agencies to provide
9 a range of services to those in need; and

10 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's community mental health and addiction treatment system
11 offers a vital safety net to some of Rhode Island's most vulnerable residents-the uninsured, the
12 homeless, children in foster care, older adults, veterans, and their families; and

13 WHEREAS, Untreated mental illness drains our national economy of more than \$80
14 billion each year in lost wages and decreased productivity, accounting for 15 percent of the total
15 economic burden of all disease; and

16 WHEREAS, Alcohol and drug abuse contributes to the death of more than 100,000
17 Americans each year; and

18 WHEREAS, People with mental illnesses die 25 years earlier than those in the general
19 population; and

1 WHEREAS, Rhode Island’s mental health and addiction treatment providers served over
2 70,000 adults, children, and families in communities across our state in 2009, and employ almost
3 3,500 Rhode Islanders; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence
5 Plantations hereby extends our sincere appreciation and congratulations to the Drug and Alcohol
6 Treatment Association, The Rhode Island Council of Community Mental Health Organizations,
7 and their member organizations for all that they do to keep our citizens healthy; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Council of Community
10 Mental Health Organizations.

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