

2016 -- S 2912

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING JONATHAN KLINKER ON BEING NAMED THE NEWPORT DAILY NEWS
2016 OUTSTANDING YOUTH VOLUNTEER

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, DiPalma, Felag, and Pagliarini

Date Introduced: April 14, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Jonathan Klinker is a young man who is passionate about the problem of
2 childhood poverty and works tirelessly to find innovative ways to assist those communities; and

3 WHEREAS, Jonathan is currently a junior at Bishop Connolly High School in Fall River,
4 Massachusetts, where he serves as a peer minister, a student ambassador and as the Vice-
5 President of his class. He is also an Eagle Scout, volunteers at a soup kitchen in Fall River, and
6 has been an altar server at St. Christopher's Church in Tiverton for the past nine years; and

7 WHEREAS, Jonathan began learning about the extent of childhood poverty locally after
8 his Boy Scout troop hosted a speech by Mr. James P. Stevens, the founder of GiftstoGive
9 Philanthropy, who spoke about the efforts of his foundation to help these children in the local
10 community. Jonathan was very inspired by this speech and after learning that there were 3,500
11 children living in poverty in the South Coast region, he and his troop got to work organizing a
12 clothing drive and started a new program to give gifts to needy children on their birthdays; and

13 WHEREAS, Thanks to the tireless work done by Jonathan, the GiftsToGive program
14 expanded from Massachusetts into Rhode Island. GiftsToGive now supports local Rhode Island
15 organizations such as the East Bay Community Action Program and Child & Family, and thanks
16 to Jonathan's efforts, more than 600 children living in poverty in Newport County have received
17 material assistance; and

18 WHEREAS, Jonathan has truly been an inspiration to all those who have gotten to know
19 him and have seen first-hand his passionate devotion in support of alleviating and eradicating

1 childhood poverty here in Rhode Island. Alice Forry, a GiftsToGive donor, called Jonathan
2 inspirational and a most impressive young man and went on to say that "It's inspiring about how
3 he talks about giving to the community. It's not just that he's out doing it. Jonathan really feels it.
4 He really feels the rewards"; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
6 hereby congratulates Jonathan Klinker on being named the Newport Daily News 2016
7 Outstanding Youth Volunteer; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Jonathan Klinker.

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