

2014 -- S 2991

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND EXTENDING SINCERE APPRECIATION TO RIGHT NOW
FOR KIDS AND THEIR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS FOR ALL THAT THEY DO TO
KEEP CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SAFE AND HEALTHY

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Paiva Weed, Algieri, Lombardi, and Archambault

Date Introduced: May 08, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, May 8, 2014, is National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. Rhode
2 Island joins the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 1100
3 communities across the nation, and the more than 130 collaborating organizations to celebrate
4 this year's theme of "Inspiring Resilience, Creating Hope"; and

5 WHEREAS, The nationwide strategy is focused on the importance of caring for every
6 child's mental health from birth and has been embraced by providers right here in Rhode Island;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Right Now for Kids, a coalition of child welfare and behavioral health
9 providers with firsthand experience working with at-risk children and families here in the Ocean
10 State, has been formed to advocate in support of abused, neglected, dependent and at-risk
11 children in our state and to help bring the needs of the child welfare and children's behavioral
12 health system to the forefront of the public and policy agenda; and

13 WHEREAS, Right Now for Kids believes in interagency collaboration, individualized,
14 strengths-based care practices, cultural competence, community-based services, accountability,
15 and full participation of families and youth at all levels of the system; and

16 WHEREAS, Right Now for Kids believes that providing community-based programs and
17 wraparound care will increase the quality of care for youth and families and decrease the number
18 of children who enter congregate care as well as decrease child welfare costs in the long term;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, RIght Now for Kids is hosting its first "Children's Mental Health
2 Awareness Advocacy Day" on May 8, 2014; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
4 cares deeply about the welfare of Rhode Island's most vulnerable children and families. We
5 furthermore recognize the work of RIght Now for Kids as they raise public and policy awareness
6 and support for children and families, advocate for the effective and efficient use of resources and
7 continued investment in the child welfare system, improve communication and coordination
8 between child welfare advocates and service providers, and work to evaluate outcomes and
9 performance across the child welfare system in our state; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby extends sincere appreciation and congratulations to
11 RIght Now for Kids and their member organizations for all that they do to keep children and
12 families safe and healthy; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to RIght Now for Kids.

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