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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**PROCLAIMING MAY 14, 2017 TO BE "CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH
AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Marszalkowski, Kazarian, Knight, Casimiro, and Handy

Date Introduced: May 11, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, May 14, 2017, marks the 5th annual Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS)
2 Awareness Day to raise awareness about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a particularly difficult,
3 persistent, and severe neurological speech disorder in youngsters; and

4 WHEREAS, Childhood Apraxia of Speech causes affected children to have extreme
5 difficulty planning and producing the precise, highly refined, and specific series of movements of
6 the tongue, lips, jaw, and palate that are necessary in producing clear, intelligible speech; it is
7 among the most severe of speech and communication problems in young children; and

8 WHEREAS, While the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those
9 with Apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle and, although not life threatening, the
10 disorder is life altering as families are left to cope with the emotional, physical, and financial
11 challenges of having a child diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech; and

12 WHEREAS, Every child should be afforded their best opportunity to develop speech and
13 every child deserves a voice, and, with early intervention and appropriate therapy, most children
14 with Childhood Apraxia of Speech will learn to communicate with their very own voices; and

15 WHEREAS, These children, as well as their families, deserve our highest respect for
16 their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
18 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims May 14, 2017, to be "Childhood Apraxia of Speech
19 Awareness Day" in the state. We moreover invite and encourage all citizens of the state to duly

1 note this occasion and join in the 5th annual Rhode Island Walk for Apraxia; and be it further
2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to The Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association
4 of North America.

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