

2017 -- S 0372

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND IN 1892

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, Paiva Weed, Algieri, Sheehan, and Felag

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island began as the Rhode Island College of
2 Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts in 1892 as a result of the passage of the second Morrill Act
3 and with previous support from federal, state, municipal and private funds; and

4 WHEREAS, Public Land-Grant Universities were established as part of the Morrill Act
5 to create a national system of state colleges and universities dedicated, "...to promote the liberal
6 and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life,"
7 that would provide for higher education opportunities for all citizens, not merely landowners,
8 merchants, and the wealthy; and

9 WHEREAS, The vision articulated by President Abraham Lincoln and the 37th Congress
10 with passage of the Morrill Act continues to be the driving force behind the University of Rhode
11 Island's mission to be a community joined in a common quest for knowledge and committed to
12 enriching the lives of its students through its land, sea and urban grant traditions; and

13 WHEREAS, Since its founding with a class of twenty-six students, including two
14 women, the University has now grown to more than eighteen thousand undergraduate and
15 graduate students and offers eighty-two undergraduate, and seventy graduate programs and
16 eighteen certificate and non-degree programs; and

17 WHEREAS, The global prominence and diversity of the University continues to expand
18 with students from sixty-six nations studying in Rhode Island and with more than one hundred
19 twenty international agreements in twenty-three countries, URI is connecting faculty and students

1 to international institutions and scholars, building and enhancing the curriculum, and advancing
2 research; and

3 WHEREAS, The University of Rhode Island is dedicated to contributing to the economic
4 growth of the State of Rhode Island and its people by sharing knowledge with future generations
5 of innovators and entrepreneurs; now therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby congratulates the University of Rhode Island and its President, Dr. David M. Dooley, on
8 the occasion of the university's 125th Anniversary. We moreover wish them many more years of
9 community enrichment and continued educational success; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Dr. David M. Dooley, President of the
12 University of Rhode Island.

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