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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

THANKING AND CONGRATULATING MARY ANNE ROLL ON HER RETIREMENT
AFTER SEVENTEEN YEARS OF DEVOTED AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS THE
DIRECTOR OF THE CUMBERLAND SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Introduced By: Senators Pearson, and Picard

Date Introduced: May 03, 2017

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, The Cumberland Schools Volunteers is a nonprofit organization created in
2 1967, dedicated to assisting teachers with volunteer literacy programs. For the past seventeen
3 years, Mary Ann Roll has been their Director; and

4 WHEREAS, Under the guidance and direction provided by Ms. Roll, the volunteer
5 organization hosts numerous programs in the Cumberland Schools, including "Reading is
6 Fundamental", a popular program that allows elementary school students to pick out for free, new
7 books for them to own, and "Just Friends, More Alike Than Different," a curriculum that teaches
8 4th graders about peers with physical and intellectual disabilities; and

9 WHEREAS, Both programs have proven to be quite effective, with the "Reading is
10 Fundamental" program being well-known in the Cumberland elementary schools, and feedback
11 has shown that youngsters who participate in the "Just Friends Program" understand that peers
12 with disabilities are more similar than they are different from non-disabled children; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Roll offers training programs for interested volunteers and helps with
14 fundraising and the process of attaining grants. Thanks to her tireless efforts, the Cumberland
15 School Volunteers raised \$7500 for the "Reading is Fundamental" Program. Another initiative
16 that Ms. Roll brought to fruition was a program that taught volunteers how to include autism in
17 their presentations and activities for kids; and

18 WHEREAS, Although Ms. Roll will be sorely missed by the teachers, parents and
19 students of Cumberland, who have all benefited from her exemplary leadership as the Director of

1 the Cumberland School Volunteers, thankfully, she has stated that she intends to continue to serve
2 the Cumberland schools as a volunteer in the years to come; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
4 hereby thanks and congratulates Mary Anne Roll on her retirement after seventeen years of
5 devoted and distinguished service as the Director of the Cumberland School Volunteers; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Mary Anne Roll.

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