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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2019, TO BE "ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS
MONTH"

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Conley, Goodwin, Ciccone, and Sheehan

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The arts enhance and enrich the lives of every Rhode Islander; and

2 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island has clear evidence that the arts contribute
3 significantly to our quality of life, the quality education of our residents, and the economy of our
4 state; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic
6 Analysis, the arts strengthen the Rhode Island economy by generating approximately \$1.8 billion
7 in economic activity annually and by supporting nearly 18,000 jobs; and

8 WHEREAS, The arts bolster the development of what are commonly referred to as
9 deeper learning skills -- the skills and knowledge that students need to attain success in college,
10 career, and citizenship, such as teamwork and collaboration, critical thinking, problem-solving,
11 public speaking, tolerance, flexibility, and attention to detail, all of which are essential skills that
12 employers require in a vibrant and competitive economy; and

13 WHEREAS, Arts education in preK-12 schools is essential in order for Rhode Island
14 students to graduate fully proficient and ready to enter the Rhode Island workforce; and

15 WHEREAS, The National Art Education Association designates the month of March as
16 "Youth Art Month"; and

17 WHEREAS, The American Alliance for Theatre & Education and the Educational
18 Theatre Association designate the month of March as "Theatre in our Schools Month"; and

19 WHEREAS, The National Association for Music Education designates the month of

1 March as "Music in our Schools Month"; and

2 WHEREAS, The National Dance Education Organization designates the month of March
3 as "Dance in our Schools Month"; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby proclaims the month of March 2019, to be "Arts in the Schools Month" in our state. We
6 furthermore urge all the citizens of the state to join us in the observance of this month, and to
7 recognize and applaud the efforts of arts educators, artists, and administrators who work
8 diligently to ensure that all young people have access to the arts in their schools throughout the
9 school year; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, the
12 Rhode Island Art Education Association, the Rhode Island Music Educators Association, and the
13 Dance Alliance of Rhode Island.

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