WHEREAS, Every Rhode Islander deserves the opportunity to achieve financial security; and

WHEREAS, Too many of our neighbors are struggling with financial challenges at a rate higher than national peers; and

WHEREAS, Individuals with strong personal finance skills have the knowledge to make informed decisions regarding budgeting, maintaining strong credit, saving, investing, and protecting and insuring their assets; and

WHEREAS, Governments, private businesses, community-based organizations, and institutions of education must work together to help consumers make informed decisions about their finances and avoid deceptive or predatory practices; and

WHEREAS, General Treasurer Magaziner launched the Rhode Island Financial Empowerment Roundtable which regularly brings together representatives from government, nonprofits, education, businesses, and banking to network and share ideas on how to encourage economic growth and financial stability among Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, There is a strong coalition of organizations, passionate educators, and invested individuals working tirelessly to expand financial literacy and personal finance education in Rhode Island schools; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island should endeavor to expand the availability of personal finance education, because teaching financial skills to students gives them more economic
opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Strengthening the financial skills of all Rhode Islanders is an investment in the fundamental promise of a brighter future and building a more prosperous nation; and

WHEREAS, April is National Financial Literacy Month, where Rhode Island highlights its commitment to teaching ourselves and our children about the basics of financial education; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby proclaims April, 2019, to be "Financial Literacy Month." We moreover urge all Rhode Islanders to take advantage of various programs and activities that will increase their personal financial literacy both during the month of April and throughout the year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the RI JumpStart Coalition.

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