WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Foundation, founded in June of 1916, is among the nation’s oldest and largest community foundations and is Rhode Island’s largest philanthropic organization; and

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Foundation strives to inspire philanthropy; to focus acutely on the Foundation’s strategic priorities to improve economic, educational, and health outcomes for all Rhode Islanders; to convene Rhode Islanders from all sectors to debate the community’s needs and to seek solutions for the state’s challenges; and to raise money that will help make Rhode Island a more robust, innovative, and creative place to live; and

WHEREAS, President and CEO Neil D. Steinberg has diligently and enthusiastically led the Rhode Island Foundation since 2008 and recognizes that this important work requires long-term commitment and collaboration from the business, nonprofit, and government sectors; and

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Foundation, under Mr. Steinberg’s leadership, created two committees comprised of highly regarded and experienced Rhode Islanders -- the Long Term Health Planning Committee and the Long Term Education Planning Committee. The work of those committees to develop and endorse long-term education and health plans is inextricably linked and more vital than ever now that the state is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Senate Committee on Education and the Rhode Island Senate Committee on Health & Human Services are grateful that Mr. Steinberg presented to them
during the 2020 legislative session and engaged in vital dialogue with Senators about the long-
term plans, entitled “Rhode Island’s Path to a World-Class Public Education System” and “Health
in Rhode Island: A Long-Term Vision”; and

WHEREAS, The health initiative is laser-focused on health equity and envisions Rhode
Island becoming the healthiest state in the nation, so that all Rhode Islanders have the opportunity
to be in optimal health; to live, work, learn, and play in healthy communities; and to have access
to high-quality and affordable health care; and

WHEREAS, The education initiative recognizes the need for all Rhode Islanders to chart
a course and stay the course as a community and envisions a world-class public education system
for Rhode Island that prepares all students to succeed in life and to contribute productively to the
community; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
has hereby duly received and reviewed the long-term plans put forth by the Rhode Island
Foundation’s committees and stands committed to improving health and education outcomes for
all Rhode Islanders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby expresses sincere gratitude to Mr. Steinberg, to the
Rhode Island Foundation, and to all members of the education and health planning committees,
who collaborated to create long-term visions intended to improve the educational and health
outcomes for all Rhode Islanders and, ultimately, to improve Rhode Islanders’ economic and
social well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mr. Neil D. Steinberg, President and CEO of
the Rhode Island Foundation, Ms. Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner of the Rhode Island
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott, Director of
the Rhode Island Department of Health.