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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING AND THANKING PRINCIPAL KRISTINE MONJE ON THE OCCASION OF  
HER RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY-FOUR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE  
STUDENTS OF THE BLOCK ISLAND SCHOOL

Introduced By: Representatives Filippi, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: June 14, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, An enthusiastic and dedicated educator, Kristine Monje has distinguished  
2 herself as a consummate administrator throughout her career in education, and her leadership as  
3 Principal of the Block Island School has not only earned her the admiration of her colleagues, but  
4 also the gratitude and respect of all the young people she has guided for the past thirty-four years;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Upon graduation from Cranston East High School, Ms. Monje earned her  
7 Bachelor's degree from the University of Rhode Island with a double major in elementary  
8 education and communication disorders. She had grown up in the City of Cranston but became  
9 enchanted with Block Island while spending summers working at the Seaside Market & Deli and  
10 the Block Island Grocery; and

11           WHEREAS, In November of 1988, Ms. Monje temporarily set aside her plans to attain  
12 her Master's degree and took a position as a teacher's aide at the Block Island School and in 1990,  
13 began teaching the fourth grade, a position she held for the next twenty-four years; and

14           WHEREAS, Ms. Monje eventually did return to school to earn her Master's degree in  
15 speech and language pathology in her late 40's. She spent two years attending online school at the  
16 University of New England in education leadership, followed by a year off-island at Johnson and  
17 Wales University, where she ultimately completed the Principal Residency Network program;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, After another year of traveling back and forth, working in Matunuck, South

1 Kingstown and on Block Island, in 2013, Ms. Monje officially became Principal of the Block  
2 Island School and has held the ever position since; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to her leadership at the Block Island School, Ms. Monje is on the  
4 Board of Directors of the Block Island Historical Society. During her well-earned retirement she  
5 will be quite busy with her retail shop, The BeachComber, taxi business, her Airbnb, and  
6 rewriting the Block Island history book for children; and

7 WHEREAS, Principal Monje is a paradigm of the very best leadership qualities. Her  
8 genuine love of learning has already helped hundreds of children to succeed and she will be truly  
9 missed by the staff, students, and the entire Block Island school community; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
11 recognizes and applauds Principal Kristine Monje for thirty-four years of outstanding leadership  
12 and dedication to the students of the Block Island School. We wish her the very best of health,  
13 happiness, and success in all her future endeavors; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Kristine Monje.

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