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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

CONGRATULATING GEORGIA FORTUNATO ON BEING SELECTED AS RHODE ISLAND'S 2015-2016 "SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR"

Introduced By: Representatives Jacquard, Lancia, Corvese, Ackerman, and O'Grady

Date Introduced: April 14, 2016

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, "The future," in the wise words of Eleanor Roosevelt, "belongs to those who
2 believe in the beauty of their dreams." Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent of the Lincoln School
3 District, inspires her staff and the school system's students to envision the possibilities, to have
4 confidence in themselves and their abilities, and to believe in a future full of promise; and

5 WHEREAS, Superintendent Fortunato was appointed Superintendent of Lincoln's public
6 schools in 2007. Previously, she had been a special education teacher in the district, as well as
7 serving as Transition Coordinator and Director of Student Services; and

8 WHEREAS, In preparation for her career in education, Ms. Fortunato graduated from
9 Classical High School and earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Rhode Island
10 College; and

11 WHEREAS, Superintendent Fortunato is a true and proven champion of education.
12 During her tenure as Superintendent, she is credited with steering the district towards a global
13 approach to closing achievement gaps, and has led the district's efforts to implement a \$2.2
14 million technology initiative, a \$2.3 million facility upgrade, and a \$1.5 million security
15 initiative; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition, the school district has been awarded numerous grants under Ms.
17 Fortunato leadership including a \$935,000 Teaching American History grant, a \$400,000 World
18 of Work grant, and a \$100,000 Champlin Foundation grant; and

19 WHEREAS, Superintendent Fortunato has also been very active with professional

1 associations across the state including serving as Chair of the Northern Collaborate Board of
2 Superintendents, as a member of the RIC Alumni Board of Directors and the New England
3 Association of School's Advisory committee, as a guest lecturer at area colleges and universities,
4 and on the Executive Committee, Special Awards Committee, and Legislative Committees for the
5 Rhode Island School Superintendents' Association; and

6 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island School Superintendents' Association has selected Georgia
7 Fortunato as the "Rhode Island Superintendent of the Year" in recognition of her outstanding
8 accomplishments. Her dedication and expertise have been tremendous assets to the entire school
9 community, and her genuine love of learning has not only helped hundreds of children to
10 succeed, but has earned her the praise and admiration of her peers; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
12 Providence Plantations hereby congratulates Superintendent Georgia Fortunato on the prestigious
13 honor of being named the 2015-2016 "Superintendent of the Year" by the Rhode Island School
14 Superintendents' Association. We furthermore wish her the very best of health, happiness, and
15 success in all her future endeavors; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Georgia Fortunato.

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