

2017 -- H 6219

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LC002451  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CUMBERLAND SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS  
AND THANKING MARY ANNE ROLL FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF DEDICATED  
SERVICE AS THE ORGANIZATION'S DIRECTOR

Introduced By: Representatives Ackerman, Marszalkowski, McLaughlin, Phillips, and  
Kennedy

Date Introduced: May 16, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, In 1967, a small group of dedicated women, led by Margaret-Ann Gardner,  
2           banded together with the earnest intent to assist teachers with volunteer literacy programs in  
3           Cumberland's public school classrooms. Although a noble and worthwhile cause, it proved to be a  
4           lot more difficult than one would imagine. At the time, classroom teachers had no assistants, no  
5           certification process for assistants existed, and volunteers were not allowed to teach inside school  
6           buildings; and

7           WHEREAS, In addition to Ms. Gardner, Barbara Chase, who went on to become Chair of  
8           the Cumberland School Board, Wendy Leicht, who became the organization's first Director, and  
9           Rose Rockwell were founding members of the group; and

10           WHEREAS, Since its original inception the volunteer group evolved, ultimately gaining  
11           the approval of the Rhode Island General Assembly and the Rhode Island Department of  
12           Education, and is now known as Cumberland School Volunteers (CSV), a nonprofit organization  
13           which has been directed by Mary Anne Roll for the past seventeen years; and

14           WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, the CSV has provided thousands of parents who  
15           assist teachers in school classrooms and hosts a number of programs within Cumberland's school  
16           including "Reading Is Fundamental," which the group raises about \$7,500 a year to fund, "Just  
17           Friends, More Alike Than Different," and an award for a high school senior based on community  
18           service, to name but a few; and

19           WHEREAS, This year marks the golden anniversary of the founding of CSV and will

1 also see new leadership within the group with the retirement of Mary Anne Roll, and both of  
2 these momentous events are deserving of our recognition and gratitude for a job well done; now,  
3 therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
5 Providence Plantations hereby celebrates the 50th Anniversary of Cumberland School Volunteers  
6 and heartily thanks Director Mary Anne Roll for her vision and efforts on behalf of this fine  
7 organization and the students of the Town of Cumberland. We moreover wish for many years of  
8 continued success for both CSV and Ms. Roll; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Chair of the Cumberland School Board, and  
11 Ms. Mary Anne Roll.

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