

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO
PERFORM A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY AND ANALYSIS OF THE STAFFING NEEDS OF
THE OFFICES OF THE CHILD ADVOCATE AND THE MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

Introduced By: Senators Lynch Prata, Miller, Goldin, Sosnowski, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: February 16, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

1 WHEREAS, The mission of the Office of the Child Advocate is to protect the legal rights
2 of children in state care and to promote policies and practices which ensure that children are safe,
3 that children have permanent and stable families, and that children in out-of-home placements
4 have their physical, mental, medical, educational, emotional, and behavioral needs met; and

5 WHEREAS, The duties of the Office of the Mental Health Advocate include ensuring the
6 legal, civil, and special rights of people with mental illness, providing legal representation at
7 involuntary commitment hearings, monitoring procedures and policies at in-patient treatment
8 facilities and community-based health centers, and protecting the treatment rights of criminally
9 insane and inmates at the forensic hospital; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
11 hereby respectfully requests that the Department of Administration perform a comprehensive
12 study and analysis of the staffing needs of the Offices of the Child Advocate and the Mental
13 Health Advocate to ensure that those offices are adequately staffed in order to fulfill their
14 statutory duties and mission; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby respectfully requests the Director of the
16 Department of Administration to report the findings of the comprehensive study and analysis of
17 the staffing needs of the Offices of the Child Advocate and the Mental Health Advocate to the
18 President of the Senate and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services on
19 or before June 1, 2017; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
2 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Director of the Department of
3 Administration of the State of Rhode Island, the Office of the Child Advocate, and the Office of
4 the Mental Health Advocate.

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