

2019 -- S 0989

LC002834

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING MR. JAMES GEMMA, TEACHER, E.S. RHODES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ON RECEIVING THE 2019 "FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD" FROM THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL TREASURER, THE HONORABLE SETH MAGAZINER

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Gallo, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: June 18, 2019

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Financial Literacy occurs when one possesses the knowledge and skills that
2 allow them to make informed and effective judgements and decisions with their financial
3 resources. Interest in the teaching of financial literacy is at an all-time high, with many nations
4 and American states running educational programs teaching people basic financial concepts about
5 how to best navigate financial systems; and

6 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island General Treasurer's Office has made financial literacy an
7 important part of its job mission. In 2016, Treasurer Seth Magaziner created the "Financial
8 Literacy Educator of the Year Award" to honor educators who are leaders in the field of teaching
9 financial literacy. In order to be considered for this prestigious honor, a teacher must be
10 nominated for the award by an administrator or faculty member at the school where they teach,
11 have at least two years of experience teaching financial literacy or two years of experience
12 coaching a financial literacy-related extracurricular activity, and a letter of support from a
13 student; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. James Gemma, a distinguished and beloved teacher at E.S. Rhodes
15 Elementary School in Cranston, is the eminently worthy recipient of the 2019 "Financial Literacy
16 Educator of the Year Award." Mr. Gemma is an innovative teacher who has found ways to
17 incorporate financial literacy principles into the curriculum of his fifth grade class by having his
18 students participate in the Stock Market Game and the Investwrite Competition. Thanks to Mr.

1 Gemma's tireless work ethic and abiding concern for the future welfare and prosperity of his
2 pupils, his students have learned much about the risks and rewards inherent in the stock market,
3 and have learned about the importance of collaboration, accountability and technology. Parents of
4 Mr. Gemma's students report that their children come home with excitement about their daily
5 financial literacy activities in his classroom; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby congratulates Mr. James Gemma, Teacher, E.S. Rhodes Elementary School, for receiving
8 the 2019 "Financial Literacy Educator of the Year Award" from the Rhode Island General
9 Treasurer's Office. Mr. Gemma's students are fortunate to have such a talented and devoted
10 teacher instructing them about the important principles of financial literacy; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. James Gemma.

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