

2022 -- H 8260

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LC005980
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE INVALUABLE SERVICE OF DONNA O'CONNOR,
M.ED., RN, TO THE PATIENTS AT RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL AND STUDENTS IN
PROVIDENCE'S SCHOOL DISTRICT

Introduced By: Representatives Ranglin-Vassell, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Tanzi, Ajello,
Kislak, Kennedy, Ackerman, Shallcross Smith, and Cortvriend

Date Introduced: May 18, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Nursing is a vocation for those who possess a caring and sympathetic
2 nature, as well as tremendous physical and mental legerdemain, and to the good fortune of Rhode
3 Island Hospital patients and students in Providence's schools, the talents and sensibilities of
4 Donna O'Connor are totally suited to the task; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1975, Mrs. O'Connor began her career in nursing on the medical/surgical
6 floor at Faulkner Hospital in Boston, and in 1976, she joined the staff at Rhode Island Hospital as
7 a critical care bedside nurse in the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care unit. In 1989, she took a position
8 at the Attorney General's Office investigating nursing homes throughout Rhode Island but in
9 1994, returned to intensive care nursing at the Hospital; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to continuing to work as a nurse, and for the past six years as a
11 nursing supervisor at Rhode Island Hospital, Mrs. O'Connor joined the Providence School
12 Department as a school nurse teacher and was ultimately made Director of Nursing, PE, and
13 Health in 2007; and

14 WHEREAS, Throughout her many positions in the field of nursing, Mrs. O'Connor has
15 always been an advocate for those in need, and has been a key component in providing care and
16 assistance shouldering the enormous COVID-related responsibilities on top of her regular roles;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mrs. O'Connor is also a member of numerous professional boards including
19 the Certified Nursing Assistants Board at the DOH, a member of the Executive Board of the

1 Village Green Charter School, and a Board member of the Roger Williams Daycare Center since
2 2018. In addition, she was the President and a founding member of the National Coalition of 100
3 Black Women/RI Chapter from 2000 through 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, Donna O'Connor epitomizes excellence in the nursing field and she has set a
5 standard of emulation for us all; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
7 recognizes and honors Donna O'Connor, M.Ed., RN. We moreover thank her and wish her good
8 health, fulfillment and continued success in all her endeavors; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Donna O'Connor, M.Ed., RN.

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