

2014 -- S 3009

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY 14, 2014, AS "CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL DAY" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Nesselbush, DiPalma, Metts, and Walaska

Date Introduced: May 14, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Education is the gateway to a brighter future for our children and nation.
2 During National Charter Schools Week, we celebrate charter schools' commitment to academic
3 achievement, accountability, and innovation. We recognize the vital role charter schools play in
4 fostering an America where children have the knowledge and skills they need to grow, succeed,
5 and achieve their dreams; and

6 WHEREAS, As a publically-funded alternative to traditional public schools, charter
7 schools have expanded our understanding of public education by embracing the spirit of
8 discovery and providing innovative avenues for success; and

9 WHEREAS, Since the 1995 passage of Rhode Island's charter public schools' enabling
10 legislation, three district charter schools, fourteen independent charter schools, and two mayoral
11 academies have been established serving over 4,000 students from across the state; and

12 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are independent public schools of choice that are free
13 to be innovative and are accountable for student achievement; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, Rhode Island charter public schools primarily serve urban areas and
15 face the challenges of poverty at a higher than average rate. Yet, these schools continue to be
16 among the strongest in the state; and

17 WHEREAS, Charter public schools provide an alternative public education to students
18 who desire a different learning environment than that provided by traditional public schools.
19 Charter public schools provide Rhode Island parents and students their only public school

1 choice option; and

2 WHEREAS, Charter public schools are designed to deliver programs tailored to
3 educational excellence and community need; and

4 WHEREAS, Because they are public schools of choice, charter schools are open to the
5 public, funded by the public, and accountable to the public; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby proclaims May 14, 2014, as "Charter Public School Day" in the State of Rhode Island and
8 recognizes the achievement of our nineteen charter public schools; 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 Principals/Directors of Rhode Island's
11 charter public schools.

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