

2019 -- S 0520

LC001473

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE "HEZ ADVOCACY DAY" ON FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Introduced By: Senators Satchell, Euer, Cano, Ruggerio, and Felag

Date Introduced: February 28, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The noble mission of HEZ is "to encourage and equip neighbors and
2 community partners to collaborate to create healthy places for people to live, learn, work, and
3 play"; and

4 WHEREAS, To date, Rhode Island's Health Equity Zone (HEZ) initiative has directed
5 more than \$10.4 million in public health funding towards building the infrastructure that is
6 necessary in order to achieve healthy, more resilient communities through systemic changes at the
7 local level; and

8 WHEREAS, Currently there are nine HEZ programs helping to build healthy and vibrant
9 communities across the state; and

10 WHEREAS, Research has shown that 80 percent of health outcomes are determined
11 inside our communities not at the doctor's office. By building better access to neighborhood
12 services, safe and affordable housing, improved employment, and safer communities with
13 healthier food choices, we can effectively improve the health of citizens in our communities; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition, HEZ is working to engage residents "to join and lead broader
15 efforts to eliminate barriers like poverty and repair injustices in systems such as education, health,
16 criminal justice, and transportation"; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
18 hereby commemorates "HEZ Advocacy Day" on February 28, 2019, and encourages all Rhode
19 Island's communities to support local efforts to eliminate health disparities in our state; and be it
20 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 Ana Novais, Executive Director of Rhode
3 Island Department of Health, Neil P. Hytinen, Chief Public Affairs Officer and Legislative
4 Liaison, RIDOH, and Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott.

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