

2013 -- S 0500

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO STUDY
ESTABLISHING A REGISTRY AND IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM TO EXPAND
CONSUMER AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR RHODE ISLAND'S VETERAN-OWNED
SMALL BUSINESSES

Introduced By: Senators Cote, Bates, Pichardo, Ottiano, and Jabour

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

1 WHEREAS, Since 2001, over two million American military personnel have been
2 deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan; and

3 WHEREAS, Rhode Island, along with the rest of the country, is witnessing the return of
4 our mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, and sons and daughters from the field of battle; and

5 WHEREAS, Rhode Island, despite its small size, has borne a significant share of the
6 sacrifice from these recent conflicts; and

7 WHEREAS, The call back to active duty status rate for our state's National Guard is the
8 second highest in the entire United States, with over 10,000 unit deployments; and

9 WHEREAS, The number of veterans living in Rhode Island who served in the Gulf Wars
10 is three times higher than the national per capita average, and is expected to grow as troops begin
11 to withdraw from Afghanistan; and

12 WHEREAS, The fundamental freedoms enjoyed by all citizens of our state and these
13 United States are insured in no small part through the honorable service of our nations military
14 veterans; and

15 WHEREAS, The people of our state have a deep debt of gratitude for the sacrifices made
16 by these men and women, who as combat veterans placed their lives in harm's way to protect and
17 defend our nation from all foreign enemies and terrorist threats; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

1 hereby finds and declares, in order to ensure that these veterans can ultimately obtain rewarding
2 full-time civilian employment working either for themselves or other firms, that all state officers
3 and departments strive to deliver assistance and services in innovative ways that not only meet,
4 but exceed, the expectations of our veterans and their families; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby respectfully requests that the Honorable Secretary
6 of State study establishing a registry of veteran-owned businesses within the Secretary of State's
7 Office and the creation of a state-issued "decal" to identify veteran-owned businesses to the
8 public so as to further educate and encourage consumers to support Rhode Island's veteran-
9 owned small businesses; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to The Honorable A. Ralph Mollis.

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