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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING HARRY STALEY, HARRIET LLOYD, AND
THE RHODE ISLAND STATEWIDE COALITION ON BEING NAMED "LOCAL HEROES"

Introduced By: Senators Hodgson, Ottiano, Pinga, E O'Neill, and Algieri

Date Introduced: March 24, 2011

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, The American Society of Newspaper Editors' (ASNE) designation of
2 "Local Heroes" was presented during Sunshine Week in recognition of individuals' and
3 organizations' "sustained and dedicated efforts" in "advocating for timely and accessible
4 information" pertaining to the legislative voting records of Rhode Island's General Assembly;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Sunshine Week is an annual event where hundreds of print, broadcast and
7 online news media, civic groups, libraries, nonprofits, schools, and others interested in the
8 public's right to know, come together to discuss the importance of open government and freedom
9 of information; and

10 WHEREAS, This year, the ASNE has named Harry Staley, Harriet Lloyd, and the Rhode
11 Island Statewide Coalition (RISC) as the recipients of this prestigious honor; and

12 WHEREAS, RISC was founded in April of 2003, as a non-partisan business and citizen
13 taxpayer advocacy organization, dedicated "to the principles of local government transparency;
14 fiscal accountability and tax reform; and educational reform of the Rhode Island public school
15 system"; and

16 WHEREAS, Harry Staley is the founder and currently serves as Chairman of RISC and
17 President of the RISC Foundation, Inc. Since the organization's inception eight years ago, Mr.
18 Staley has dedicated his myriad talents and energy to a plethora of issues and has increased the
19 organization's membership to more than 4,000; and

1 WHEREAS, Harriet Lloyd is a full-time volunteer and serves as Executive Director of
2 RISC. She is also the editor of its daily free e-newsletter. She has worked to empower and
3 engage the public by providing and advocating for “ready access to information”; and

4 WHEREAS, Sir Winston Churchill was quoted as saying, “We make a living by what we
5 get, we make a life by what we give.” Harry Staley, Harriet Lloyd, and RISC’s passionate
6 commitment to increasing transparency in the Rhode Island legislative voting process has
7 distinguished them as persons worthy of our utmost admiration and gratitude; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
9 hereby recognizes and congratulates Harry Staley, Harriet Lloyd, and the Rhode Island Statewide
10 Coalition on being designated as this year’s “Local Heroes” from the American Society of
11 Newspaper Editors. We commend them for their dedicated and conscientious civic service, and
12 wish them success in all their future endeavors; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Harry Staley, Harriet Lloyd, and the Rhode
15 Island Statewide Coalition.

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