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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING WARM WISHES IN FAITH AND THE BLESSINGS OF HOPE AND PEACE
TO HIS HOLINESS, POPE LEO XIV

Introduced By: Representatives Hull, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Corvese,
Santucci, Azzinaro, Costantino, Perez, and Phillips
Date Introduced: May 13, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, On the second day of the Conclave, amidst the jubilant ringing of bells at
2 the Vatican and the thousands of cheering people gathered in St. Peter’s Square, a puff of white
3 smoke from the chimney of the Sistine Chapel signaled that the 133 cardinals working inside had
4 reached a two-thirds majority and elected the new leader of the world’s 1.4 billion Catholics; and
5 WHEREAS, On May 8th of 2025, the joyful success of the gathering of Catholic
6 cardinals who had assembled to elect a successor to Pope Francis, elected Cardinal Robert
7 Francis Prevost of the United States, the first American pontiff in history, who will be known as
8 Pope Leo XIV; and
9 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV was born in the United States and is also a citizen of Peru,
10 where he has spent much of his life in devout service to God. Through that unification, he has
11 served and blessed the faithful, enriching the spiritual lives of generations of devoted Catholics;
12 and
13 WHEREAS, Leading his first Mass as Pope in the Sistine Chapel, Pope Leo XIV called
14 for “missionary outreach” by the Roman Catholic Church to help heal the “wounds that afflict our
15 society” and solemnly pledged to align himself with “ordinary people”; and
16 WHEREAS, The formal inauguration Mass for Pope Leo XIV will be celebrated on May
17 18th in St. Peter’s Square. As leader of the Catholic Church, he has pledged to be a “voice for the
18 voiceless” and has called for the Church to “build bridges”; and
19 WHEREAS, The installation of a new Pope inspires and guides the universal Catholic

1 Church and its millions of followers around the world, providing a great sense of peace and hope
2 that is ultimately beneficial to all; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
4 joins the faithful in joyous celebration and extends warmest wishes to His Holiness, Pope Leo
5 XIV for good health and many more years of benevolent service proclaiming the good news of
6 the Lord; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV, and the Diocese
9 of Providence.

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