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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MAY 11 THROUGH MAY 17, 2025, TO BE "NATIONAL POLICE WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALL THE POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Introduced By: Senators Tikoian, Ciccone, Patalano, Appollonio, Lawson, Quezada, Vargas, Raptakis, Urso, and Burke
Date Introduced: May 13, 2025

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, In 1962, President John Kennedy signed a proclamation declaring May 15th
2 of each year to be National Police Officers Memorial Day and the week in which May 15th falls
3 to be National Police Week. In 1994, President Clinton directed that the United States flag be
4 flown at half-staff every May 15th; and

5 WHEREAS, This year, during the week of May 11 through May 17, Rhode Islanders
6 remember and honor all the brave men and women serving as police and law enforcement
7 officers who through the years have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to protect the public in
8 service to our nation. In 2023, 164 police officers died in the line of duty across America; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the National Fraternal Order of Police, 342 police officers
10 were shot in 2023, and according to the FBI, 43,469 police officers were assaulted while
11 performing their duties. Former FBI Director Christopher Wray has stated that on average, a law
12 enforcement officer is murdered more often than every five days in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP), a nonprofit
14 organization that keeps track of all statistics related to law enforcement officers killed in the line
15 of duty, since 1791, there have been 26,921 known line-of-duty deaths, including 54 from the
16 State of Rhode Island; and

17 WHEREAS, Each year during National Police Week, approximately 40,000 attendees
18 congregate in Washington D.C., at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial where they

1 attend vigils and services to honor the memory of all the police and law enforcement officers who
2 have perished in service to our nation; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates May
4 11 through May 17 of 2025, to be "National Police Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
7 transmit duly certified copies of the resolution to the International Brotherhood of Police Officers,
8 Mr. Patrick Yoes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, the Rhode Island Police Chiefs
9 Association, and the Rhode Island Troopers Association.

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