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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2026, TO BE "COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kennedy, Tanzi,
Fogarty, Phillips, Ajello, Felix, and Fellela

Date Introduced: April 07, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Housing Network of Rhode Island (HNRI) will celebrate the impact of
2 Rhode Island's Community Development Corporations and nonprofit developers throughout
3 Rhode Island; and

4 WHEREAS, HNRI members are a vital part of Rhode Island's housing development
5 sector and are at the forefront of efforts to expand equitable housing and economic opportunities
6 for low- and moderate-income Rhode Islanders; and

7 WHEREAS, In addition to producing safe and affordable homes from Westerly to
8 Woonsocket, HNRI's members are actively engaged within the communities they serve. They
9 maintain and support community-centered childcare facilities and commercial spaces, community
10 gardens and start-up food enterprises; provide job training opportunities, homebuyer education
11 and foreclosure counseling, landlord education and home repair funds; and offer personal small
12 business micro-loans or grants; and

13 WHEREAS, Community Development Month is an opportunity to celebrate these
14 organizations and the transformational work they do to make Rhode Island a better place; now,
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
17 proclaims the Month of April, 2026, to be "Community Development Month" in the State of
18 Rhode Island. This House recognizes and thanks these organizations for their tremendous
19 contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services, and the

1 economic well-being of the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Melina Lodge, Executive Director of The
4 Housing Network of Rhode Island.

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