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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 19-25, 2026, TO BE "NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK" IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Paplauskas, Newberry, Blazejewski, Morales, Read,
Fascia, Baginski, Solomon, Santucci, and Noret

Date Introduced: April 14, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Libraries of all types are at the heart of their communities, serving the cities,
2 towns, schools and campuses across Rhode Island; and

3 WHEREAS, Libraries are accessible and inclusive places that foster a sense of belonging
4 and community; and

5 WHEREAS, Today's libraries and their services extend far beyond the four walls of a
6 building and welcoming all who wish to use their resources; and

7 WHEREAS, For people lacking broadband at home, libraries provide access to
8 computers and Wi-Fi, even checking out Internet hotspots and laptops; and

9 WHEREAS, Libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections that are as
10 diverse as the communities they serve and ensure equity of access for all; and

11 WHEREAS, In times of crisis, libraries, librarians, and library workers play an invaluable
12 role in supporting their communities, both in person and virtually; and

13 WHEREAS, Libraries provide access to digital resources, including e-books and lifelong
14 learning tools; and

15 WHEREAS, Libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting the free exchange of
16 information and ideas for all; and

17 WHEREAS, Libraries defend the right to read and the premise that "free people deserve
18 to read freely"; and

19 WHEREAS, Libraries have long served as trusted and treasured institutions for all

1 members of the community regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender
2 identity, or socio-economic status; and

3 WHEREAS, Libraries, librarians and library workers are joining library supporters and
4 advocates across the nation to celebrate "National Library Week"; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
6 proclaims April 19-25, 2026, to be "National Library Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be
7 it further

8 RESOLVED, That this House hereby thanks Rhode Island's libraries, librarians and
9 library workers for their service to our community. During this week, we encourage all residents
10 to visit their library to access resources and services. Because of you, libraries transform lives and
11 communities; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Office of Library and Information Services,
14 and all Rhode Island City and Town Libraries.

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