

2026 -- H 8453

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LC004541  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING "NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK" ON APRIL 19-25,  
2026, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,  
Kennedy, Ajello, Tanzi, Santucci, Cortvriend, and Boylan

Date Introduced: April 16, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, According to RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, 1 in 6 people  
2 worldwide experience infertility, making it a prevalent public health concern that impacts  
3 millions of families; and

4 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization and the American Medical Association  
5 define infertility as a disease, recognizing that it can result from medical, genetic, environmental,  
6 or unexplained causes; and

7 WHEREAS, Infertility affects women and men equally and does not discriminate based  
8 on race, religion, sexual orientation, marital status or socioeconomic level; and

9 WHEREAS, The LGBTQI+ community also faces challenges when building their  
10 families; and

11 WHEREAS, All people challenged in their family-building journey should have access to  
12 all family-building options. Families facing obstacles while trying to start or expand can have  
13 profound emotional, psychological and financial impacts, including stress, anxiety, depression,  
14 and significant out-of-pocket expenses; and

15 WHEREAS, Family-building options include adoption, assisted reproductive  
16 technologies, in vitro fertilization (IVF), third-party reproduction, and fertility preservation.  
17 Access to these options is essential to ensuring reproductive equity for all individuals and  
18 couples; and

19 WHEREAS, Cost and lack of insurance coverage are challenges for many in our State to

1 access the family-building option they need; and

2 WHEREAS, Raising awareness about infertility and the barriers faced by the family-  
3 building community is the first step to removing these barriers, reducing stigma, supporting  
4 affected individuals and families, and improving access to care; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
6 joins RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, dedicated volunteers, health care  
7 professionals, and members of the infertility and family-building community in commemorating  
8 and participating in “National Infertility Awareness Week” on April 19-25, 2026, in the State of  
9 Rhode Island; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to CEO Danielle Melfi, RESOLVE: The National  
12 Infertility Association.

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