

2026 -- H 8454

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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

**CELEBRATING THE 56TH ANNIVERSARY OF "EARTH DAY" ON APRIL 22, 2026, IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives McGaw, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
DeSimone, Carson, Speakman, Donovan, Potter, and Boylan

Date Introduced: April 16, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, First held on April 22, 1970, Earth Day was created by Senator Gaylord
2 Nelson to bring national attention and support for environmental protection; and

3 WHEREAS, The very first Earth Day brought twenty million Americans from myriad
4 United States cities out to demonstrate. In 2026, one billion people in more than 192 countries are
5 expected to be involved in a wide range of activities coordinated globally; and

6 WHEREAS, This year marks the 56th Anniversary of Earth Day and it continues last
7 year's theme of "Our Power, Our Plant" focusing on the role of people and communities around
8 the world in sustaining environmental protections that affect the cost of living, public health,
9 infrastructure, and long-term stability. Conditions of the environment have influence on the
10 availability of food and water, access to energy, natural disaster risks, and economic resilience;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Earth Day has already had a significant and positive impact on our World
13 with tens of millions of trees planted, educators teaching about environmental issues in 149
14 countries, billions in Green School Grants, 2.7 billion Acts of Green, and millions of cleanup
15 volunteers; and

16 WHEREAS, Earth Day commands a collective voice from our world to encourage
17 governments, businesses and individuals "to acknowledge and rectify their roles in the
18 environmental crisis"; and

19 WHEREAS, Earth Day is an opportunity for "individuals from all backgrounds and

1 walks of life to unite in a global effort to advance sustainability and climate action"; now,
2 therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
4 celebrates the 56th Anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, 2026, and calls upon all Rhode
5 Islanders to educate themselves on the environmental hazards facing the Earth and our future, and
6 become part of the solution; 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 Lou Vergato, Executive Director, the Rhode
9 Island Resource Recovery Corporation, and Terrence Gray, Director, Rhode Island Department of
10 Environmental Management.

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