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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

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SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 AS “JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” IN THE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Bell, Kallman, and Zurier

Date Introduced: April 28, 2026

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month is celebrated annually in the month of  
2 May to honor the generations of Jewish Americans who have contributed to the history and  
3 culture of the United States of America; and

4           WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have been an integral part of Rhode Island’s vibrant  
5 history, with Jewish settlers establishing a presence in the State during the colonial era and  
6 building communities that continue to enrich Rhode Island to this day; and

7           WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have made significant contributions to Rhode Island’s  
8 economic development through entrepreneurship, business leadership, and innovation, playing a  
9 key role in strengthening the State’s economy; and

10           WHEREAS, The Jewish community has enriched Rhode Island’s arts and culture,  
11 supporting institutions, artists, and events that celebrate creativity and foster cross-cultural  
12 appreciation; and

13           WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have shaped education in Rhode Island by advocating for  
14 high-quality education for all, establishing schools and serving as educators and mentors who  
15 inspire future generations; and

16           WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have honorably served in the United States Armed Forces  
17 and in public service, demonstrating courage, patriotism, and a steadfast commitment to  
18 protecting the freedoms cherished by all Americans; and

19           WHEREAS, Jewish physicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals have made

1 critical contributions to medicine, health care, and scientific advancement in Rhode Island,  
2 improving lives and advancing the well-being of communities throughout the State; and

3 WHEREAS, The Jewish community in Rhode Island has established synagogues, cultural  
4 institutions, and organizations that have enriched the State’s religious, social, and cultural fabric  
5 while fostering dialogue, mutual understanding, and a welcoming and inclusive environment for  
6 all residents; and

7 WHEREAS, Recognizing and celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month reaffirms  
8 Rhode Island’s commitment to combating prejudice, standing against antisemitism and all forms  
9 of hate, and promoting unity among all residents of this State; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby proclaims the month  
11 of May 2026 as “Jewish American Heritage Month” in the State of Rhode Island and encourages  
12 all residents to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and educational  
13 programs; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
15 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to appropriate community organizations and  
16 leaders in recognition of this observance.

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