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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MAY 2026 AS "FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Melissa A. Murray

Date Introduced: May 12, 2026

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia, a chronic medical condition affecting the central nervous
2 system for which there is currently no cure, causes fatigue and debilitating pain in women, men,
3 and children, many of whom go undiagnosed; and

4 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is characterized by widespread musculoskeletal pain,
5 cognitive difficulties, and other symptoms that significantly impact quality of life, and patients
6 with this chronic pain illness often live with widespread body pain, extreme fatigue, sleep
7 disorders, stiffness, weakness, headaches, numbness, tingling, memory impairment, and difficulty
8 concentrating; and

9 WHEREAS, The risk of developing fibromyalgia is about eight times higher for first-
10 degree relatives of affected individuals; and

11 WHEREAS, Patients with fibromyalgia often have a number of co-existing conditions
12 which may include chronic myofascial pain, IBS, TMJD, migraines, environmental sensitivities,
13 anxiety, and depression; and

14 WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia affects millions of individuals in the United States and around
15 the world, with many patients facing challenges in obtaining timely diagnosis, effective
16 treatment, and public understanding of their condition; and

17 WHEREAS, It may take years to receive a diagnosis of fibromyalgia, and medical
18 professionals are frequently inadequately educated on the current research, diagnosis, and
19 treatment of fibromyalgia; and

1 WHEREAS, Increased public awareness and education regarding fibromyalgia can help
2 reduce stigma, encourage compassionate support for those living with the condition, and promote
3 earlier recognition and access to care to better support people who struggle with the multifaceted
4 management challenges of this complex chronic pain illness and common co-existing conditions;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Healthcare providers, researchers, advocates, caregivers, and individuals
7 living with fibromyalgia continue to work toward advancing research, improving treatment
8 options, and supporting those impacted by chronic pain disorders; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby recognizes May 2026
10 as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Month" and May 12, 2026 as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day", and
11 encourages all residents, organizations, healthcare professionals, and community leaders to
12 increase awareness and understanding of fibromyalgia and support those affected by this
13 condition; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the National Fibromyalgia Association.

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