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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 17 TO MAY 23, 2026, TO BE "NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Gordon E. Rogers

Date Introduced: May 19, 2026

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, In 1960, the American Public Works Association (APWA), sponsored
2 having the third week of May recognized nationally as National Public Works Week. In 1962,
3 President John F. Kennedy issued a proclamation in which he described public works as being
4 “vitaly important to our national health and welfare” and he praised “the dedicated efforts of
5 public works professionals.” President Kennedy went on to further state that “it is in the public
6 interest for the citizens and civil leaders of this country to gain knowledge of and to maintain a
7 progressive interest in the public works needs and programs of their respective communities.”;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Through the years, National Public Works Week has ballooned in support
10 across the United States and Canada, where more than 30,000 APWA members use this important
11 week to raise awareness about the importance of public works in our daily lives. Every day,
12 APWA members work diligently and tirelessly planning, building, managing, operating and
13 fixing public works in order to improve the everyday quality of life in our communities; and

14 WHEREAS, The theme of this year’s National Public Works Week is “Rooted in
15 Service, Powered by Community,” in which it is acknowledged that the roots of service run deep
16 in public works. It is this deep desire to serve the public that has propelled public works
17 innovations that have helped our communities evolve into places where people can lead lives of
18 purpose and possibility. Some public works activities, such as building roads and bridges, is
19 highly visible to the public, while other public works activities and contributions, such as

1 maintaining water and sewer systems, are sometimes hidden from view, but are no less important.
2 Together, all of these efforts form the foundation for thriving communities, reminding all of us
3 that every project powers the connection between public service and the people it supports; now,
4 therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby proclaims the Week of
6 May 17 to May 23, to be “National Public Works Week” in the State of Rhode Island; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the American Public Works Association.

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