

2026 -- S 3328

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHODE ISLAND ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND COMMENDING ITS LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTH CARE IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Bridget Valverde

Date Introduced: May 27, 2026

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants (RIAPA) was founded
2 in 1976 as a chartered constituent organization of the American Academy of Physician Assistants,
3 thereby establishing organized professional representation for Physician Assistants in the State of
4 Rhode Island; and

5 WHEREAS, The year 1976 also marked the enactment by the Rhode Island General
6 Assembly of Chapter 5-54 of the Rhode Island General Laws, authorizing the practice of
7 Physician Assistants and providing the statutory foundation for the growth and advancement of
8 the profession within the state; and

9 WHEREAS, For fifty years, the Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants has
10 advanced the Physician Assistant profession through advocacy, education, and public service,
11 consistently working to strengthen the quality, accessibility, and continuity of health care across
12 Rhode Island; and

13 WHEREAS, Physician Assistants practicing in Rhode Island have played a vital role in
14 expanding access to high quality, patient centered health care in communities throughout the state
15 and have supported the ongoing modernization of practice laws, thereby strengthening the state's
16 healthcare delivery system and improving outcomes for Rhode Islanders; and

17 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants has been recognized as
18 a national leader in legislative and regulatory advocacy, working diligently to remove

1 unnecessary barriers to practice, promote team-based care, and establish one of the strongest and
2 most supportive practice environments for Physician Assistants in the United States; now,
3 therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby recognizes and
5 celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants and
6 commends its members for their unwavering dedication to the health and well-being of the people
7 of Rhode Island; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby expresses its deep appreciation for RIAPA's
9 leadership, advocacy, and enduring contributions to health care in this state, and acknowledges its
10 essential role in shaping a modern, forward looking practice environment that supports Physician
11 Assistants and enhances access to care for all Rhode Islanders; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Academy of Physician
14 Assistants.

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