2020 -- H 7958

LC005164

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

AN ACT

RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

Introduced By: Representatives Azzinaro, Tobon, Solomon, McLaughlin, and Jackson

Date Introduced: March 04, 2020

Referred To: House Veterans` Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

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| 1 | SECTION 1. Declaration of purpose and findings of fact: |
| 2 | (1) The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest distinction that can be awarded by |
| 3 | the president, in the name of the congress, to members of the armed forces who have distinguished |
| 4 | themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their lives above and beyond |
| 5 | the call of duty. |
| 6 | (2) National Medal of Honor Day is a federally recognized day observed every year on |
| 7 | March 25. It was also created to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients. |
| 8 | National Medal of Honor Day has been observed since 1991, when President George H. W. Bush |
| 9 | signed P.L. 101-564. |
| 10 | (3) Public awareness of the importance of the Medal of Honor has declined in recent years. |
| 11 | (4) Designation of March 25 as a state day of special observance shall foster public |
| 12 | appreciation and recognition of Medal of Honor recipients. |
| 13 | SECTION 2. Chapter 25-2 of the General Laws entitled "Days of Special Observance" is |
| 14 | hereby amended by adding thereto the following section: |
| 15 | 25-2-60. Medal of Honor Day. |
| 16 | March 25 in each and every year shall be set apart as "Medal of Honor Day." This day may |

be observed by the people of this state with appropriate exercises in public places that celebrate the

extraordinary heroism and tremendous sacrifice of Rhode Island service members awarded the

- 1 <u>Medal of Honor.</u>
- 2 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

$A\ N\quad A\ C\ T$

RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE -- MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

- 1 This act would designate March 25 as Medal of Honor Day.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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