

2018 -- H 8283

LC005748

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND VITAL NEED FOR CHRONICALLY ILL PATIENTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO SAFE EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS

Introduced By: Representatives Amore, Kazarian, Cunha, McLaughlin, and Kennedy

Date Introduced: June 05, 2018

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Since 2009, the overdose crisis has claimed the lives of over 1,800 Rhode
2 Islanders, and there are on average 32 non-fatal overdoses weekly related to opioids; and

3 WHEREAS, A host of efforts to combat this public health crisis are underway at the
4 federal, state and local levels such as increasing access to medication assisted recovery,
5 increasing access to naloxone, increasing access to peer recovery coaches and increasing efforts
6 to prevent individuals from being exposed to prescription or illicit opioids; and

7 WHEREAS, The needs of chronically ill patients to treat their pain with opioids must still
8 be met. All patients should be treated with compassion, empathy and sound clinical judgement
9 recognizing the safest treatment options to treat their pain; and

10 WHEREAS, It is the duty of every doctor to first "Do No Harm"; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
12 Providence Plantations in conjunction with the Rhode Island Department of Health hereby
13 recognize the importance and vital need for chronically ill patients to have access to safe effective
14 treatments; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That this House hereby respectfully urges every emergency room facility in
16 this state to treat the chronically ill with compassion, empathy and sound clinical judgement; and
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
19 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Directors of the Rhode Island Department

- 1 of Health, and The Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental
- 2 Disabilities and Hospitals, and the Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

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