

2019 -- H 5890

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LC002229
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**COMMEMORATING "WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY" ON MARCH 21, 2019, IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, Shekarchi, Azzinaro, Kennedy, and Serpa

Date Introduced: March 21, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, On December 19th of 2011, the United Nations General Assembly
2 designated March 21st as World Down Syndrome Day, to be observed annually beginning in
3 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, The day was established in order to raise public awareness throughout
5 society regarding persons with Down syndrome; and

6 WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that has
7 always been a part of the human condition and is the most common chromosomal disorder in the
8 United States; and

9 WHEREAS, Each year, one out of every 700 babies, or about 6,000 babies annually, are
10 born with Down syndrome in the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, Down syndrome exists in all nations across the globe and commonly results
12 in variable effects on learning styles, physical characteristics, and oftentimes health; and

13 WHEREAS, Ensuring and promoting the full realization of all human rights and
14 fundamental freedoms for persons with Down Syndrome is critical to achieving the
15 developmental goals and overall potential for these individuals; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition, adequate access to health care, to early intervention programs,
17 and to inclusive education, as well as appropriate research, are vital to the growth and
18 development of individuals with Down syndrome; and

19 WHEREAS, Persons with Down syndrome should enjoy a full and decent life, in

1 conditions that ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the person's active participation
2 in the community and the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an
3 equal basis with other persons; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
5 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes the inherent dignity, worth, and valuable contributions
6 of persons with intellectual disabilities as promoters of well-being and diversity within their
7 communities, and the importance of their individual autonomy and independence, including the
8 freedom to make their own choices; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That this House hereby commemorates "World Down Syndrome Day" on
10 March 21, 2019, in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Crystal Greene, President of the Down
13 Syndrome Society of Rhode Island, and Steve and Pasqualina Feole.

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