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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING AND COMMEMORATING PRIDE MONTH IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Bell, Murray, Valverde, and Felag

Date Introduced: June 11, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Annually, June is the month chosen to celebrate "Pride," a time for the
2 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA) communities and
3 all Americans to reflect on the struggles and injustices endured by LGBTQIA communities. It is a
4 month to take pride in the progress that has been made since the fateful Stonewall Riots in 1969,
5 in Greenwich Village, New York, which were in response to rampant discrimination by police
6 and a legal system that was hostile to the LGBTQIA community; and

7 WHEREAS, LGBTQIA people still experience harassment and discrimination based on
8 their sexual orientation and gender identity locally, nationally and internationally. At times, they
9 are still subject to being physically beaten and abused, and treated like outcasts or criminals; and

10 WHEREAS, Although much progress has been made, including, but not limited to,
11 gaining civil rights protections in Rhode Island in 1995 and 2001, winning the right to marry in
12 Rhode Island in 2013 and nationally in 2015, more progress needs to be made; and

13 WHEREAS, "Pride" is a time to celebrate the right to live authentically and to be proud
14 of "who you are" instead of ashamed by a social stigma that was, and unfortunately still is, a
15 reality in our society; and

16 WHEREAS, In order to form a more perfect union, America was founded on the
17 principles of equality and "liberty and justice" for all, but for too long, since our nation's
18 founding, LGBTQIA Americans have been denied those precious rights and freedoms that were
19 supposed to be granted to all; and

1 WHEREAS, In this month of June, the LGBTQIA communities will be celebrating
2 notions of love, equality, understanding, respect, acceptance, and peace; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
4 hereby joyously celebrates and commemorates Pride Month in the State of Rhode Island; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
7 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of
8 the United States, the Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, and
9 the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation.

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