

2020 -- H 7561

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING FEBRUARY 12, 2020, AS "KOREA DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Kennedy, Mattiello, Shekarchi, Edwards, and Filippi

Date Introduced: February 12, 2020

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The cornerstone of Rhode Island's founding principles is acceptance and  
2 equality for the numerous beliefs and various cultures that make our state and this country so  
3 great, and thus we are proud to be the home of numerous ethnic communities; and

4 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's Korean American community imparts a rich history and  
5 vitality through their presence. Our state's identity and strength is reflected in the traditions and  
6 observances celebrated by its various cultures and populations; and

7 WHEREAS, Korea gained its independence from Japanese colonial rule on August 15,  
8 1945, and the Republic of Korea was established three years later. In 1979, the Consulate  
9 General of the Republic of Korea in Boston was established. Under the tenure of Kim Yonghyon,  
10 the Consul General, understanding and cooperation between Korea and Rhode Island has  
11 developed and strengthened; and

12 WHEREAS, Economically, South Korea is an important trade partner for Rhode Island  
13 with exports of \$63,402,841, making it one of the top ten exporters in the state; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition, The Korean American Association of Rhode Island (KAARI)  
15 was founded in 1975. The organization is dedicated to promoting friendship, welfare, and  
16 education among its members and contributes to beneficial cultural exchanges and international  
17 goodwill between Koreans and Americans in our state; and

18 WHEREAS, The Korean community in Rhode Island is an essential element in our  
19 State's journey towards understanding, mutual respect, and common purpose for all people and is

1 a vital component in our state's economic health; now, therefore be it

2           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
3 Providence Plantations hereby celebrates February 12, 2020, as "Korea Day" in the State of  
4 Rhode Island. We furthermore extend our deepest respect and appreciation to the Rhode Island  
5 Korean community for all that it has contributed to the rich diversity of our state and New  
6 England as a whole; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
8 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Korean American Association of Rhode  
9 Island and to Kim Yonghyon, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Boston.

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