

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

**PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2020, TO BE "NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Senator Thomas J. Paolino

Date Introduced: February 13, 2020

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

1 WHEREAS, For more than a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable
2 contributions to virtually every aspect of American life and society, including medicine, law,
3 business, education, technology, government, military service, and culture; and

4 WHEREAS, Since migrating to the United States, men and women of Arab descent have
5 shared their rich culture and traditions with their neighbors and friends, while also setting fine
6 examples of model citizenry and public service; and

7 WHEREAS, Arab Americans brought with them their resilient family values, strong
8 work ethic, dedication to education, and a diversity in faith and creed that have added strength to
9 our great democracy; and

10 WHEREAS, Arab Americans have also enriched our society by sharing in the
11 entrepreneurial American spirit that has made our nation free and prosperous; and

12 WHEREAS, The history of Arab Americans in the United States remains neglected or
13 defaced by misconceptions, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate in the forms of crimes and speech; and

14 WHEREAS, Arab Americans join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and
15 diverse society, where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

16 WHEREAS, The incredible heritage and contributions made by Arab Americans have
17 helped us build a better nation; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
19 hereby joyously celebrates the numerous important contributions Arab Americans have made to

1 our great nation and hereby declares the month of April, 2020, to be "National Arab American
2 Heritage Month" in the State of Rhode Island. We moreover encourage all Rhode Island citizens
3 to join in celebration of this special observance; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
5 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Thomas Lazieh, Rhode Island
6 National Arab American Heritage Representative.

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