

2020 -- S 2770

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LC005308
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP DECLARE A
NATIONAL EMERGENCY FOR THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Algieri, and Miller

Date Introduced: March 12, 2020

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization most recently declared the Coronavirus
2 outbreak to be a global pandemic; and

3 WHEREAS, As of March 12, 2020, there have been approximately 133,065 Coronavirus
4 cases worldwide, with approximately 4,947 deaths. In the United States, according to the Centers
5 for Disease Control and Prevention, there have been 1,319 Coronavirus cases and 38 deaths. All
6 of these numbers are expected to increase exponentially; and

7 WHEREAS, The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approximately
8 \$42.643 billion in the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) that would instantly be available, if the
9 President declared a national emergency, to assist state and local governments in their efforts to
10 mitigate the Coronavirus Pandemic; and

11 WHEREAS, Declaring a national emergency would also allow FEMA to deploy
12 personnel to states and local communities to assist with planning and on-the-ground activities to
13 contain the Coronavirus; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
15 hereby respectfully requests that the President of the United States declare a national emergency
16 for the coronavirus and urges the President and the Federal Government to work and consult
17 closely with State Governors and local leaders as we all work together to contain the Coronavirus
18 Pandemic; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed

1 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of
2 the United States, and the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation, Senator Jack Reed, Senator
3 Sheldon Whitehouse, Representative James R. Langevin, and Representative David N. Cicilline.

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