

2020 -- S 2876

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY ON JUNE 15, 2020, IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Cynthia Armour Coyne

Date Introduced: June 16, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, The United Nations General Assembly in resolution 66/127, designated
2 June 15th as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; and

3 WHEREAS, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day represents the one day in the year when
4 the entire world voices its opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted on some of our older
5 generations; and

6 WHEREAS, Elder abuse can be defined as "a single, or repeated act, or lack of
7 appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which
8 causes harm or distress to an older person"; and

9 WHEREAS, Elder abuse can take various forms, such as physical, psychological or
10 emotional, sexual, and financial abuse. It can also be the result of intentional or unintentional
11 neglect; and

12 WHEREAS, By 2050, more than 20 percent of the world's population will be 60 years
13 old or older. Virtually all countries expect to see substantial growth in the number of older
14 persons, and occurrences of elder abuse can be expected to grow with it; and

15 WHEREAS, In the United States, nearly ten percent of Americans age 65 or older,
16 experience elder abuse each year and the situation has been negatively affected by the world
17 financial and economic crisis; and

18 WHEREAS, Older Americans lose an estimated \$2.9 billion or more annually due to
19 elder financial abuse and exploitation; and

1 WHEREAS, The majority of older men and women can continue to make essential
2 contributions to the functioning of society if adequate guarantees and protections are in place;
3 now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby commemorates June 15, 2020, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. We moreover urge
6 all Rhode Islanders to take this opportunity to learn more about how to protect and nurture our
7 elderly citizens; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging and
10 the National Council on Aging.

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