

2021 -- H 6295

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MAY 4, 2021, AS "WORLD ASTHMA DAY" IN THE STATE OF
RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Batista, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Williams, Cortvriend,
Perez, Tanzi, Cardillo, Place, and Nardone

Date Introduced: May 04, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Asthma is a long-term, inflammatory disease in which the airways of the
2 lungs constrict causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness and coughing; and

3 WHEREAS, Approximately 25 million Americans have asthma. Approximately eight
4 percent of adults have asthma and seven percent of children have asthma, which is the leading
5 chronic disease in children; and

6 WHEREAS, African-American children are three times more likely to have asthma than
7 white children and African-Americans are three times more likely to die from asthma than white
8 Americans; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2016, asthma accounted for 9.8 million doctor's office visits, and in
10 2018, asthma accounted for 178,530 discharges from hospital inpatient care and 1.6 million
11 emergency department visits; and

12 WHEREAS, From 2008 to 2013, the annual economic cost of asthma was \$81.9 billion,
13 including medical costs and loss of work and school days. Among children aged 5 to 17, asthma
14 is one of the top causes of missed school days; and

15 WHEREAS, Worldwide, it was estimated in 2016 that 339 million people have asthma
16 and 417,918 deaths occurred due to asthma; and

17 WHEREAS, World Asthma Day was established in 1988. It is organized by GINA, the
18 Global Initiative for Asthma, which works with health care groups across the globe to help raise
19 awareness of asthma. Today, World Asthma Day is widely considered to be the world's most

1 important Asthma awareness event; and

2 WHEREAS, The 2021 World Asthma Day theme is "Uncovering Asthma
3 Misconceptions." The goal is to expose the commonly held but dangerous falsehoods surrounding
4 asthma such as the belief that asthma is infectious, that asthma sufferers should not exercise, that
5 asthma can only be controlled with high dose steroids, or that asthma is a childhood disease, one
6 that individuals will grow out of as they age; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
8 commemorates May 4, 2021 as "World Asthma Day"; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Louis-Philippe Boulet MD, Chair of the Board
11 of Directors of the Global Initiative For Asthma.

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