

2022 -- H 8109

LC005756

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CARE OF ATHEROSCLEROTIC
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Vella-
Wilkinson, Alzate, Henries, Perez, Cassar, and Knight

Date Introduced: April 07, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States,
2 surpassing all types of cancer, unintentional injury, and stroke; and

3 WHEREAS, In the United States, approximately 21 million patients have been diagnosed
4 with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) and are at risk of a cardiovascular event;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, It is projected that by 2035, 45 percent of the United States population will
7 have cardiovascular disease; and

8 WHEREAS, ASCVD is linked to the build-up of cholesterol in the arteries, and the risk
9 of associated events can be modified by lowering low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C);
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In 2016, nearly 70 million United States adults had higher than
12 recommended LDL-C levels; and

13 WHEREAS, In the United States, 43.1 million people are currently treated with lipid-
14 lowering therapies to manage cardiovascular risk; and

15 WHEREAS, Only 20 percent of people with ASCVD who are taking statins, one of the
16 leading lipid-lowering therapies, actually achieve healthy levels of LDL-C; and

17 WHEREAS, The total direct and indirect cost of ASCVD in the US was \$555 billion in
18 2016, and is projected to climb to \$1.1 trillion by 2035; and

19 WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, 67,600 adults have been told by a health professional that

1 they had angina, a stroke, a heart attack, or coronary heart disease, which are some of the
2 manifestations of ASCVD; and

3 WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, 1,584 people had ASCVD as an underlying cause of death;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, 32,700 adults reported experiencing a heart attack in their
6 lifetime and 21,900 adults reported experiencing a stroke in their lifetime; and

7 WHEREAS, Rhode Island spends an estimated \$401.3 million dollars on direct medical
8 expenses for ASCVD care each year; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
10 urges state agencies to expand cholesterol screening and other forms of cardiovascular screening
11 to improve the care quality of people suffering from atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; and
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby advocates for the update of the
14 state's cardiovascular plan to accelerate quality improvements in the care rendered to these
15 patients such that screening, treatment, monitoring, and improved health outcomes are achieved;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby supports the creation of policies
18 to decrease the rising number of death of Americans as a result of ASCVD; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
20 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Director James McDonald, MD, MPH, RI
21 Department of Health.

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