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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MAY 12 THROUGH MAY 18, 2024, AS "NATIONAL POLICE WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALL THE POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Introduced By: Senator David P. Tikoian

Date Introduced: May 13, 2024

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, In 1962, President John Kennedy signed a proclamation declaring May 15<sup>th</sup>  
2 of each year to be National Police Officers Memorial Day and the week in which May 15<sup>th</sup> falls  
3 to be National Police Week. In 1994, President Clinton directed that the United States flag be  
4 flown at half-staff every May 15th; and

5           WHEREAS, This year, during the week of May 12 through May 18, Rhode Islanders  
6 remember and honor all the brave men and women serving as police and law enforcement  
7 officers who through the years have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to protect the public in  
8 service to our nation. In 2023, 136 police officers were killed in the line of duty across America;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, According to the National Fraternal Order of Police, 328 police officers  
11 were shot in 2023, and according to the FBI, 43,469 police officers were assaulted while  
12 performing their duties. FBI Director Christopher Wray has stated that on average, a law  
13 enforcement officer is murdered more often than every five days in the United States; and

14           WHEREAS, According to the Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP), a nonprofit  
15 organization that keeps track of all statistics related to law enforcement officers killed in the line  
16 of duty, since 1791, there have been 26,566 known line-of-duty deaths, including 54 from the  
17 State of Rhode Island; and

18           WHEREAS, Each year during National Police Week, approximately 25,000 to 40,000

1 attendees congregate in Washington D.C., at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial  
2 where they attend vigils and services to honor the memory of all the police and law enforcement  
3 officers who have perished in service to our nation; now, therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates May  
5 12 through May 18 of 2024, to be "National Police Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it  
6 further

7           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
8 transmit duly certified copies of the resolution to the International Brotherhood of Police Officers,  
9 Mr. Patrick Yoes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, the Rhode Island Police Chiefs  
10 Association, and the Rhode Island Troopers Association.

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