

2025 -- H 6154

LC002505

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2025, TO BE "LIMB LOSS AND LIMB DIFFERENCE
AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Fogarty, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Kazarian, Handy, Shallcross Smith, Knight, Cortvriend, and Hull

Date Introduced: April 01, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Loss of limb refers to the absence of a limb due to injury, disease or
2 surgery. Limb difference refers to physical variation in the size, shape, or function of a limb.
3 Limb difference can be present from birth (congenital) or acquired later in life; and

4 WHEREAS, There are more than 5.7 million individuals living with limb loss and limb
5 difference in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 2.3 million individuals live with a form of limb loss, and more
7 than 3.4 million were born with a form of limb difference; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, over 500,000 individuals in the United States experienced limb
9 loss or are born with limb difference; and

10 WHEREAS, Diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, and blood clots are cited as the
11 leading causes of limb loss, accounting for fifty-four percent of amputations; and

12 WHEREAS, Traumatic accidents or injuries such as motor vehicle collisions, workplace
13 incidents, sporting injuries, and military wounds, are other significant causes of limb loss,
14 affecting forty-five percent of amputees; and

15 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that behaviors such as diabetes management, properly
16 treating wounds, and observing safety practices can be effective in preventing amputations; and

17 WHEREAS, Access to appropriate prosthetic care for people living with limb loss or
18 limb difference is vital to enable individuals to reach their full potential, remain physically active,
19 live independently, and live well; and

1 WHEREAS, The Amputee Coalition provides education, support and advocacy through
2 the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons who have limb loss and limb
3 difference, their families, and health care providers throughout the United States; now, therefore
4 be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
6 proclaims April of 2025, to be “Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month” in the State
7 of Rhode Island; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That this House hereby encourages all Rhode Islanders to join in
9 recognizing the importance of this month by supporting people living with limb loss and limb
10 difference, learning about issues affecting people with limb loss or limb difference, expressing
11 gratitude to family and caregivers who are a source of support and motivation, and by saluting
12 our veterans who have lost their limbs in the service to our Nation or in retirement; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the National Limb Loss Resource Center and
16 The Amputee Coalition.

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