2025 -- H 6262

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N

PROCLAIMING MAY OF 2025, TO BE "MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Quattrocchi, Paplauskas, Nardone, Solomon, Phillips, and Lima

Date Introduced: April 24, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1   WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Motorcycle Association was started in 1974 in West

2   Warwick, as a nonprofit motorcycle rights organization to protect the freedoms of riders in Rhode

3   Island through safety, education and legislation; and

4   WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Motorcycle Association has worked closely with

5   Governors, legislators and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to advance the

6   freedom of choice and the safety of motorcycle riders in Rhode Island with fair and equitable

7   solutions; and

8   WHEREAS, The theme for "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month" is "Share the Road:

9   It's Everyone's Responsibility." This theme emphasizes that everyone, including drivers and

10   motorcyclists, has an important role to play in ensuring safe roads The goal is to educate riders on

11   the importance of safe riding practices, defensive riding techniques and the need to wear

12   protective gear. The theme also urges all riders to obey traffic laws, to maintain their motorcycles

13   properly, to take motorcycle safety courses, to wear bright clothing and use lights to stay visible

14   to other motorists, to use defensive riding techniques, and urges care drivers to give motorcycles

15   ample space; and

16   WHEREAS, Motorcycle riding is an economical and popular form of transportation

17   enjoyed by about eight percent of the American people. It provides a more efficient mode of

18   transportation than cars or trucks, uses up fewer resources, causes less wear and tear on our roads

19   and highways, and increases available parking spaces; and

1   WHEREAS, Motorcycle accidents are unfortunately a common occurrence, with

2   estimates suggesting that such fatal incidents occur approximately once every twelve minutes in

3   America and account for more than 14 percent of all traffic fatalities, despite the fact that only 3

4   percent of all registered vehicles are motorcycles; and

5   WHEREAS, Because motorcycles don't have seat belts or airbags, and they are much

6   smaller than cars, motorcyclists are 28 times more likely to die in a crash than those driving cars;

7   and

8   WHEREAS, As of January 2023, the total number of public, personal, and commercial

9   motorcycles registered in the United States and the District of Columbia totaled approximately

10   8.8 million, with 32,252 registered in Rhode Island as of 2021; and

11   WHEREAS, Data reported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

12   (NHTSA) states that in 2023, 6,218 motorcyclists died in traffic accidents in the United States,

13   which is around 17 motorcyclists killed per day; and

14   WHEREAS, Distracted driving poses one of the biggest dangers to other motorists,

15   especially motorcyclists. Distractions can be any activity that takes a driver's focus off the task of

16   driving, including eating and drinking, talking or texting on the phone, and numerous other

17   distractions, all of which pose serious dangers to the motorcycle driving public; and

18   WHEREAS, While there are no prescribed means to prevent motorcycle wrecks, greater

19   awareness of motorist safety and potential existing risks can arm riders with the knowledge they

20   need to help mitigate dangerous situations while on the road; now, therefore be it

21   RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby

22   proclaims May of 2025, to be "Motorcycle Awareness Month" in the State of Rhode Island, and

23   urges all motorists to avoid distracted driving; and be it further

24   RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to

25   transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Motorcycle Association.

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