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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY OF 2026 AS “AMERICAN HEART MONTH” IN THE STATE  
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Felix, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, J.  
Lombardi, Alzate, Tanzi, Hull, Stewart, and Santucci  
Date Introduced: February 03, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Every year, one in four Americans of all ages, genders, and ethnicities die  
2 from heart disease; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2022, 22 percent of all deaths in Rhode Island were due to heart disease;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The primary factors affecting heart disease are high cholesterol, high blood  
6 pressure, smoking, diabetes, and excessive alcohol use; and

7 WHEREAS, American Heart Month 2026 focuses on “heart health and preventing  
8 cardiovascular disease” and the need to nurture this vital organ to ensure enduring strength and  
9 well-being; and

10 WHEREAS, To show support for American Heart Month, citizens are encouraged to  
11 wear red and encourage others to join in the “colorful cause”; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to wearing red, Rhode Islanders can use social media to raise  
13 awareness and share heart health facts, learn CPR, start a fitness challenge, or volunteer their time  
14 with organizations focusing on heart health; now, therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
16 proclaims February of 2026 as “American Heart Month” and moreover supports all efforts to  
17 raise awareness of heart disease; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
19 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Rhode Island Department of

1     Health, Jerome Larkin, MD and the American Heart Association – Rhode Island.

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