

2026 -- H 8342

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 24, 2026 AS “NATIONAL DIABETES ALERT DAY 2026” IN THE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Diaz, Chippendale, Slater,  
Stewart, Fogarty, Edwards, Casey, and Ajello

Date Introduced: March 24, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Diabetes is a chronic condition affecting how the body processes blood  
2 sugar, and if left unmanaged, can lead to serious health complications including heart disease,  
3 kidney failure, vision loss, stroke, and lower limb amputations; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than one  
5 in three adults in the United States have prediabetes, and approximately eight out of ten of those  
6 individuals are unaware of their condition, highlighting the importance of early awareness and  
7 preventive care; and

8 WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, diabetes remains a significant health concern, with the  
9 state Department of Health reporting that over 11 percent of adults have been diagnosed with  
10 diabetes, and many more may be at risk for developing the condition; and

11 WHEREAS, National Diabetes Alert Day is observed annually on the fourth Tuesday in  
12 March as a one day “wakeup call,” encouraging individuals to take the simple one minute  
13 Diabetes Risk Test and to learn more about how they can reduce their risk of type 2 diabetes; and

14 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Health and its community partners are  
15 committed to raising awareness about diabetes, promoting evidence based preventive programs  
16 such as the National Diabetes Prevention Program, and supporting all Rhode Islanders in making  
17 healthy lifestyle choices to improve long-term health; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
19 recognizes March 24, 2026 as “National Diabetes Alert Day 2026”, and commends the Rhode

1 Island Department of Health and its community partners for their tireless efforts to educate and  
2 empower residents, and encourages all Rhode Islanders to learn about their diabetes risk, pursue  
3 preventive care, and make positive health choices; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to send  
5 a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Health,  
6 Jerome Larkin, MD.

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