

2018 -- S 2815

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING APRIL 16, 2018, AS "NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY" IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, Lombardi, Crowley, Metts, and P Fogarty

Date Introduced: April 12, 2018

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day, celebrated on April 16, is a national
2 initiative to inspire, educate and empower the public about the importance of advance care
3 planning. It is a collaborative effort of national, state and community organizations to encourage
4 adults of all ages to plan ahead of a health crisis; and

5 WHEREAS, The Improving Care Coalition, a project of the Rhode Island State Nurses
6 Association is the state liaison for National Healthcare Decisions Day; and

7 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day will help Rhode Islanders understand
8 that making future healthcare decisions includes much more than deciding what care they would
9 or would not want; it starts with expressing preferences, clarifying values, identifying care
10 preferences and selecting an agent to express healthcare decisions if patients are unable to speak
11 for themselves; and

12 WHEREAS, Making healthcare decisions ahead of time and putting your wishes in
13 writing brings peace of mind to families. It helps to avoid the difficult situations that are so
14 common when a person becomes seriously ill and the family is left to guess what their loved one
15 would have wanted; and

16 WHEREAS, An advance directives document speaks for your healthcare decisions if you
17 can't speak for yourself. Everyone needs an advocate; and

18 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day may encourage Rhode Islanders to start
19 the conversation about advance directives with their families rather than delaying that discussion;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day educates and empowers the public and
3 healthcare providers to take part in important advance care planning and encourages patients to
4 discuss the topic with their healthcare providers to; and

5 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day is an event that provides the opportunity
6 to advocate for a good life that honors a person's healthcare wishes; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
8 hereby recognizes April 16, 2018, as "National Health Care Decision Day" in the State of Rhode
9 Island. We urge and encourage all the citizens of the state to learn about advance care planning
10 for themselves and their loved ones; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Director Nicole Alexander-Scott, Rhode Island
13 Department of Health, and The Improving Care Coalition, a project of the Rhode Island State
14 Nurses Association.

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