

2021 -- H 6461

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LC002722
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER OF 2021, AS "NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH" AND THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5TH-11TH AS "NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Casimiro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Phillips, Fellela, Cortvriend, Ajello, Solomon, and Morales

Date Introduced: June 23, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in
2 2020, suicide was the twelfth leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading
3 cause of death for individuals between the ages of ten and thirty-four; and

4 WHEREAS, When someone dies by suicide, the loss is felt by many. The ripples of loss
5 spread from close family and friends to community members, acquaintances and even people the
6 deceased did not know; and

7 WHEREAS, The CDC reported that in 2019, 12 million Americans thought about
8 committing suicide, 3.5 million Americans make an actual plan for suicide, and in 2020, 44,834
9 Americans committed suicide; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention estimates that suicide and
11 self-injury costs the United States \$69 billion; and

12 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 7,000 military and former
13 military personnel, active service and reserve service members, and veterans, commit suicide
14 each year; and

15 WHEREAS, As tragic as the suicide numbers are in the United States, they would be far
16 worse if not for the tireless work provided by countless suicide prevention volunteers throughout
17 the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, Researchers have consistently found that simply having an existing hotline
19 and a trained volunteer is the best way to save lives. Suicide prevention callers who turned away

1 from suicide most commonly credit the hotline and the volunteer they talked with as being most
2 responsible for their choice to continue living; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
4 commemorates September of 2021, as "National Suicide Prevention Month" and the week of
5 September 5th-11th as "National Suicide Prevention Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be
6 it further

7 RESOLVED, That this House hereby recognizes that suicide is a serious national public
8 health problem and thanks all the suicide prevention advocates and volunteers for the lives they
9 save every day; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to The Samaritans of Rhode Island.

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