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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING AND RECOGNIZING MAY 6, 2021, AS "NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators F Lombardi, de la Cruz, Ciccone, Lombardo, Picard, and  
Algiere

Date Introduced: May 11, 2021

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, During times of strength and times of weakness, in moments of joy and  
2 moments of despair, Americans of many different faiths and traditions have turned to prayer as a  
3 means of seeking comfort, giving thanks, and asking for guidance and grace; and

4           WHEREAS, Prayer brings communities together and can be a source of inspiration and  
5 courage. In the aftermath of senseless acts of violence and unnecessary suffering and death, the  
6 prayers of countless Americans signal to grieving families and communities that they are not  
7 alone. Their pain is a shared pain, and their hope is a shared hope. Regardless of religion or creed,  
8 Americans of faith reflect on the sacredness of life and express their sympathy for the wounded  
9 and the recovering, offering comfort and holding up a light in a time of darkness; and

10           WHEREAS, Today, Americans continue the tradition of our ancestors by acknowledging  
11 the power of prayer in our lives and cherishing our right to pray freely; and

12           WHEREAS, The tradition of national supplication was made official in 1952, when  
13 President Harry Truman signed a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress establishing a floating  
14 annual national day of prayer. Finally, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan set the date for the  
15 annual prayer day as the first Thursday in May; and

16           WHEREAS, The Christian Bible underscores the precious promise of faith in 2  
17 Chronicles 7:14, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and  
18 seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive  
19 their sin and will heal their land"; and

1           WHEREAS, The theme for this year's National Day of Prayer is "Now the Lord is the  
2 Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The theme comes from the New  
3 Testament, 2 Corinthians 3:17, and expresses the belief that "all have sinned and fall short, but  
4 God's arm is not short, and we have been sent to show and share His message of Love, Life, and  
5 Liberty"; now therefore be it

6           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates and  
7 recognizes May 6, 2021, as "National Day of Prayer" in Rhode Island; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby encourages all Rhode Islanders to set aside a  
9 particular moment on this day to participate in this meaningful spiritual event and to encourage  
10 their friends and neighbors to observe this year's National Day of Prayer according to their own  
11 faith or practice; and be it further

12           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Richard and Cheryl Russell, State Coordinators  
14 of the National Day of Prayer.

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