

2022 -- H 7226

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LC004274
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

THANKING FEMA AND THE NATIONAL DISASTER MEDICAL SYSTEM TEAM
DOCTORS, NURSES, AND STAFF FOR PROVIDING CRITICAL HELP TO RHODE
ISLANDS HOSPITALS AND CITIZENS

Introduced By: Representatives Fenton-Fung, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Newberry,
Filippi, Chippendale, Ajello, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: January 27, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Rhode Island's hospitals have been struggling with staffing shortages and
2 the highest hospitalization numbers since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, and
3 although the state government's COVID response team has been working tirelessly to pursue any
4 and every available resource to support the hospital's staffing needs, the situation was critical; and

5 WHEREAS, President Joe Biden, in response to numerous states' urgent conditions, has
6 deployed teams of military doctors, nurses and other medical professionals; and

7 WHEREAS, Through the National Disaster Medical System, a 14-member team
8 consisting of nurses, medics, and support staff arrived to provide critical assistance in support of
9 Kent Hospital's emergency department and medical/surgical unit for two weeks, and a 23-person
10 medical team, deployed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be
11 assisting Rhode Island Hospital for 30 days; and

12 WHEREAS, The FEMA team consists of an internal medicine doctor, a
13 pulmonologist/intensive care doctor, a physician's assistant, an emergency physician, two
14 emergency room nurses, eleven critical care nurses, a medical/surgical nurse, two respiratory
15 technicians and a three-person "command and control" team who will be primarily assisting staff
16 in the Respiratory Intermediate Care Unit

17 WHEREAS, All healthcare workers who are making enormous sacrifices in order to
18 support and save countless patients' lives on the frontlines of battling the novel coronavirus are
19 our heroes and eminently worthy of praise and gratitude; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
2 thanks FEMA and the National Disaster Medical System team doctors, nurses, and staff for
3 providing critical help to Rhode Island's hospitals and citizens; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
5 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to President Joseph R. Biden, Deanne Criswell,
6 Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Dawn O'Connell,
7 Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

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