

2024 -- H 8139

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING APRIL OF 2024 TO BE "NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Chippendale, Newberry, Roberts, Quattrocchi, Rea,
Kennedy, Edwards, Bennett, Fenton-Fung, and Ajello

Date Introduced: April 04, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Children are our nation's most vulnerable members as well as our nation's
2 most valuable resources, helping to shape the future of Rhode Island; and

3 WHEREAS, Positive childhood experiences (PCEs)-like loving caregivers and safe,
4 stable, and nurturing relationships-can help mitigate trauma and the negative impact of adverse
5 childhood experiences (ACEs) to promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being
6 of children; and

7 WHEREAS, Childhood trauma can have long-term psychological, emotional, and
8 physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime and impact future generations of their family;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem
11 affecting every community in the U.S., and finding solutions requires input and action from
12 everyone; and

13 WHEREAS, Children who live in families with access to concrete economic and social
14 supports are less likely to experience abuse and neglect; and

15 WHEREAS, Prevention is possible because of the partnerships created between families,
16 prevention advocates, child welfare professionals, education, health, community, and faith-based
17 organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and local, state, and national governments;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In order to solve the public health issue of abuse and neglect, communities

1 and government must work together to change hearts and mindsets through storytelling and
2 sharing, center the needs of families, break down bias and barriers, and inspire action from
3 expected and unexpected partners in prevention; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby is
5 committed to advancing equitable, responsive, and effective systems that ensure all children and
6 families are healthy and thriving; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That this House hereby recognizes the need to prioritize kids and invest in
8 more prevention initiatives like home visiting and family-strengthening policies, economic
9 supports, and community-based child abuse prevention programs at the national, state, and local
10 levels; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That this House hereby proclaims April of 2024 to be "National Child
12 Abuse Prevention Month" in the State of Rhode Island and urges all citizens to recognize this
13 month by building a narrative of hope for children and families through collaboration and the
14 creation of an ecosystem of primary prevention that does not currently exist in this country; and
15 be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ashley Deckert, Director, Rhode Island
18 Department of Children, Youth & Families.

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