

**2013 -- H 6186**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013**

**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**PROCLAIMING MAY 15, 2013, THROUGH JUNE 15, 2013, AS "TOURETTE SYNDROME  
AWARENESS MONTH"**

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Edwards, Mattiello, Shekarchi, and Ucci

Date Introduced: May 30, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, Good health is a key component of a long, productive, and fulfilling life.  
2    Awareness campaigns that center on critical health issues play a central role in maintaining public  
3    health and educating individuals about the steps they can take to promote their well-being and  
4    their families; and

5           WHEREAS, Tourette Syndrome (TS) is an inherited neurological disorder, characterized  
6    by involuntary and sudden movements and repeated vocal sounds, called "tics." TS can strike  
7    people of all ethnic and racial backgrounds, with males affected three to four times more  
8    frequently than females. Approximately 200,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed  
9    with TS; and

10          WHEREAS, Tourette Syndrome typically begins in childhood, with symptoms generally  
11    appearing before the age of 10, and sometimes requires lifelong treatment. Early diagnosis and  
12    treatment of TS can prevent physical and psychological harm. There is no known cure for TS and  
13    treatment involves multiple medications and therapies, with costs that can be prohibitive; and

14          WHEREAS, The Tourette Syndrome Association of Rhode Island (TSARI) is an  
15    organization that strives to improve the general welfare of people with TS at home, in the  
16    community, and in public or private schools. TSARI educates professionals and the public about  
17    TS in order to identify those with TS who are as yet undiagnosed or are misdiagnosed; and

18          WHEREAS, It is important to create awareness, understanding and support for  
19    individuals and families affected by Tourette Syndrome. It is likewise fitting to recognize

1 individuals and organizations that are committed to providing education and awareness about TS  
2 among the healthcare community, educational institutions, and the public; now, therefore be it

3         RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
4 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims May 15, 2013, through June 15, 2013, as "Tourette  
5 Syndrome Awareness Month"; and be it further

6         RESOLVED, That this House acknowledges the volunteer contributions of the Tourette  
7 Syndrome Association of Rhode Island's Board of Directors, who give freely of their time and  
8 expertise to advance the well-being of individuals and families with TS through education,  
9 awareness, and advocacy initiatives; and be it further

10         RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the National Tourette Syndrome Association  
12 and the Tourette Syndrome Association of Rhode Island.

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