

2015 -- H 5993

=====  
LC002244  
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2015, AS "COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS  
MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Hull, Messier, and Casey

Date Introduced: March 26, 2015

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, Community Health Workers (CHWs) are professional non-clinicians who  
2 check the pulse of the community and are an integral link that connects disenfranchised and  
3 medically underserved populations to the health and social service systems, while making health  
4 services more culturally and linguistically appropriate; and

5           WHEREAS, By serving in a unique role, Community Health Workers work to improve  
6 access to health care, advance health equity, and help to eliminate health care disparities based on  
7 race, ethnicity, gender, and class in underserved communities; and

8           WHEREAS, Community Health Workers provide direct services, including informal  
9 counseling and social support, and advocate for individual and community needs; and

10          WHEREAS, Increasing workforce diversity is a critical step in achieving health equity.  
11 Given that communities with high minority populations experience a disproportionate burden of  
12 their health, increasing the workforce diversity is vital to eliminating health disparities; now,  
13 therefore be it

14          RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
15 Providence Plantations hereby joins the Department of Labor and Training in recognizing the  
16 Community Health Worker workforce as an Apprenticeable Profession; and be it further

17          RESOLVED, That this House hereby declares that it is fitting for the month of April,  
18 which is Minority Health Month, to note the role that Community Health Workers have had in  
19 improving the diversity of the health workforce in order to provide better access to underserved

1 communities in Rhode Island, and to celebrate April of 2015, as "Community Health Workers  
2 Month" in the state of Rhode Island. We moreover thank Rhode Island's Community Health  
3 Workers (CHWs) for the important contributions they make towards improving the quality of life  
4 for the citizens of Rhode Island; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
6 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Community Health Worker Association of  
7 Rhode Island.

=====  
LC002244  
=====