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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE - FIRST  
RESPONDERS

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Perez, Bennett, McNamara, Williams,  
Knight, and Azzinaro

Date Introduced: February 12, 2021

Referred To: House Special Legislation

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 25-2 of the General Laws entitled "Days of Special Observance" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **25-2-60. First responders day.**

4 The seventeenth day of March shall annually be set aside as a day to be known as "Rhode  
5 Island's First Responder Day". This nation and state owe an enormous debt to law enforcement  
6 officers and fire service department professionals who work diligently and tirelessly to protect the  
7 people and property in Rhode Island. They protect our schools, public meeting places, homes and  
8 our physical safety twenty-four (24) hours a day, every day of the year. These devoted public  
9 service employees always answer the call and always come to the aid of those in need, regardless  
10 of the dangers they face or the possible consequences they may endure. This day shall be observed  
11 by the people of the state with appropriate ceremonies and activities that celebrate the many  
12 contributions of Rhode Island first responders.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OF SPECIAL OBSERVANCE - FIRST  
RESPONDERS

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- 1           This act would establish March 17 as an annual day of special observance to honor Rhode
- 2   Island's first responders.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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