

2021 -- H 6491

LC003117

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

THANKING RHODE ISLAND'S COOLING CENTERS FOR CARING FOR AND
PROTECTING THE STATE'S MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Barros,
McEntee, Fogarty, Giraldo, Batista, and Cassar

Date Introduced: July 01, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, When temperatures rise above 90 degrees for three or more days, it is called
2 a heat wave, and if the condition lasts for several weeks, it is called extreme heat; and

3 WHEREAS, Older adults, infants and young children, and persons with chronic health
4 conditions are more susceptible to experiencing heat-related illness. The elderly are particularly
5 sensitive to heat stroke and heat exhaustion because the skin and other systems' ability to regulate
6 body temperature declines with age; and

7 WHEREAS, The mission of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
8 (RIEMA) is, in part, to reduce the loss of life and ensure that the state is working together to
9 "protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all natural" hazards for the people of our
10 State; and

11 WHEREAS, In order to meet this goal, RIEMA, when necessary, coordinates the opening
12 of shelters known as "cooling centers" for the public and those in need of shelter from the
13 extreme heat; and

14 WHEREAS, Due to recent record-breaking extreme heat conditions, Cooling Centers
15 around Rhode Island have opened their doors and extended their hours to assist the public in
16 seeking shelter from the extreme heat, by providing shade, water, restrooms, and medical
17 attention; and

18 WHEREAS, Cooling Centers, staffed by enthusiastic and dedicated employees and
19 volunteers are saving lives and are truly worthy of our recognition and gratitude; now, therefore

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
3 thanks the staff and management of Rhode Island Cooling Centers and RIEMA for caring for and
4 protecting our State's most vulnerable residents; 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 Mr. Marc R. Pappas, Director of the Rhode
7 Island Emergency Management Agency.

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