

2024 -- H 8250

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LC005967
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MAY OF 2024, TO BE "OLDER AMERICANS MONTH" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy,
Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Fellela, McNamara, and Boylan

Date Introduced: May 07, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Older Americans Month began in 1963 as "Senior Citizens Month" after a
2 meeting between President John Kennedy and the National Council of Senior Citizens. It became
3 Older Americans Month in 1965; and

4 WHEREAS, When Older Americans Month was established, 17 million Americans were
5 65 and older, with approximately a third living in poverty. Today, more than 62 million
6 Americans are aged 65 and older and that number is projected to increase by 23 percent by 2054.
7 The poverty rate amongst older Americans has increased from 8.9 percent in 2020 to 10.3 percent
8 in 2021; and

9 WHEREAS, Older Americans Month acknowledges and celebrates the many
10 contributions older adults have made, and continue to make, in support of our nation, especially
11 our senior veterans. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the nation with public
12 ceremonies, fairs, activities and other events; and

13 WHEREAS, Every day, older Americans contribute their wisdom, experience, time and
14 resources in support of their communities. They assist young families as they navigate through
15 the joys and travails of raising children, are key supporters and contributors to many civic
16 organizations and charitable entities, and are a key component of the national economy; and

17 WHEREAS, Engagement and respect between younger and older generations is an
18 important fabric of American life. It is important that American society offer senior Americans
19 the services, resources and support they need in order to live as independently as possible, make

1 the choices that are best for them and their families and loved ones, and to choose their own paths
2 as they age; now, therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode island hereby
4 proclaims the Month of May to be "Older Americans Month" in the State of Rhode Island; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
7 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Maria Cimini, Director of Rhode Island office
8 of healthy aging.

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