

**2011 -- H 5927**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011**

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**H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N**

**PROCLAIMING MARCH 10TH OF 2011 TO BE "HARRIET TUBMAN DAY" IN THE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Serpa, Hearn, Fellela, and Lima

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman was born into slavery on a plantation in Bucktown,  
2 Maryland, in or around the year 1820. She received no education, as was the plight of almost all  
3 slaves, and was put to work as a field hand at a very early age; and

4           WHEREAS, Following the death of her master and the heir to the plantation, Harriet  
5 feared being sold to another owner and fled north in search of freedom; and

6           WHEREAS, In 1849, despite overwhelming adversity and obstacles, Harriet Tubman  
7 escaped the slavery that had defined her youth and went on to become one of the most widely  
8 recognized and highly acclaimed leaders of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; and

9           WHEREAS, Through amazing intelligence and unwavering courage, Harriet Tubman  
10 became one of the greatest conductors of the Underground Railroad, undertaking 19 incredibly  
11 dangerous trips that helped countless men, women, and families to escape slavery and become  
12 free; and

13           WHEREAS, During the Civil War, Ms. Tubman sustained her commitment to the cause  
14 of freedom as a soldier, a nurse, a scout, a spy, and a cook. She also worked with newly freed  
15 slaves; and

16           WHEREAS, After the war ended, Ms. Tubman continued her fight for human dignity and  
17 justice. She established a residence for the homeless in New York, and became an eloquent  
18 speaker on behalf of human rights; and

19           WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman dedicated her life to the pursuit of the promise of American

1 ideals and the basic principle of humanity for all. She died at her home in New York on March  
2 10<sup>th</sup> of 1913; and

3 WHEREAS, As one of the most recognized and honored women in our country's history,  
4 Harriet Tubman's memory and her lifetime of achievements continue to inspire generations of all  
5 ages, backgrounds, and cultures, and naming a day in her honor is a fitting tribute to this true  
6 American heroine; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
8 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims March 10<sup>th</sup> of 2011 to be celebrated as "Harriet Tubman  
9 Day" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That this House hereby urges all Rhode Islanders to dedicate this day to the  
11 universal ideals of freedom, justice, and human dignity for all families in the true spirit of Harriet  
12 Tubman; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Harriet Tubman Society and Holiday  
15 Committee.

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