

2020 -- H 8166

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LC005645
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

HOUSE RESOLUTION

THE JOYOUS CELEBRATION OF SAVE THE BAY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Introduced By: Representative K. Joseph Shekarchi

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Narragansett Bay is New England's largest estuary and the defining
2 geographic feature of Rhode Island, covering 196 square miles with 256 miles of shoreline; and

3 WHEREAS, Narragansett Bay is Rhode Island's most valuable natural resource, which
4 attracts 12 million visitors each year, and has an annual impact on Rhode Island's economy into
5 the billions of dollars; and

6 WHEREAS, Concerned and committed citizens including fishermen, swimmers, sailors,
7 shell fishermen, surfers, boaters, and others have worked hard throughout Rhode Island's history
8 to protect Narragansett Bay from abuse and pollution; and

9 WHEREAS, In October of 1970, Save The Bay was formed after successful citizen-led
10 efforts to oppose proposed oil refineries in Jamestown and Tiverton, respectively. Save The Bay's
11 founders include: John Canulla, Jim Holt, Charles McGowan, John Scanlon, William Miner,
12 Thomas Hazelhurst, Arthur Kidder, and Irving Sheldon; and

13 WHEREAS, Save The Bay has successfully championed improvements to wastewater
14 treatment plants, restoration of critical habitats, and protection of public access to the shore; and,

15 WHEREAS, Save The Bay mobilized volunteers to clean up the Brenton Reef and North
16 Cape oil spills, and the annual International Coastal Cleanup effort in Rhode Island which
17 annually engages more than 2,000 volunteers at more than 80 sites, and typically results in the
18 removal and documentation of about 20,000 pounds of trash and debris; and

19 WHEREAS, Save The Bay's "Explore the Bay" marine science education program
20 engaged over 13,000 students last year, and over the years has worked with nearly 200 different

1 schools throughout the state; and

2 WHEREAS, Numerous threats to Narragansett Bay remain, including: sea level rise and
3 climate change; stormwater pollution; development; loss of habitat; and public access; now,
4 therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
6 joyously celebrates the 50th anniversary of Save The Bay; and be it further

7 RESOLVED That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Jonathan Stone, Executive Director of Save
9 The Bay.

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