

2022 -- H 8331

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LC006082  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING JUNE 8TH OF 2022, AS "WORLD OCEANS DAY" IN THE STATE OF  
RHODE ISLAND, AND THE URGENT IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING AND  
PRESERVING OUR OCEANS AND THEIR RESOURCES

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi,  
Speakman, Donovan, Fogarty, and Ajello

Date Introduced: June 08, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, World Oceans Day is an international day that takes place annually on June  
2 8. It was originally proposed by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) in  
3 1992 at the Earth Summit's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development  
4 (UNCED). World Oceans Day received official recognition by the United Nations in 2008; and

5 WHEREAS, The ocean covers more than seventy percent of planet Earth, and produces  
6 approximately fifty percent of the planet's oxygen. It is home to most of the earth's biodiversity  
7 and is the primary source of protein for more than a billion people. The ocean is one of the most  
8 important sources of economic activity across the globe, with it being estimated that forty million  
9 people will be employed by ocean-related businesses by 2030. More than ninety-five percent of  
10 the ocean remains unexplored; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, the ocean is at a tipping point and desperately needs to be protected  
12 by all nations. It is estimated that ninety percent of the fish populations have been depleted and  
13 fifty percent of the coral reefs have perished. We are currently taking far more from our oceans  
14 than can be replenished, and it is essential to work together today to restore our oceans vibrancy  
15 and bounty; and

16 WHEREAS, The United Nations Decade of the Ocean Science for Sustainable  
17 Development began in 2021, and is seeking to accelerate research in ocean science, strengthen  
18 international cooperation, improve ocean management and eventually develop a complete digital  
19 atlas of the ocean. Incredibly, less than twenty percent of the global ocean is currently mapped;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, The theme for this year's United Nations World Oceans Day is  
3 "Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean." This celebration will be hosted at the United  
4 Nations Headquarters in New York and will be broadcast live across the globe. The hope and  
5 goal is to "shed light on the communities, ideas, and solutions that are working together to protect  
6 and revitalize the ocean and everything it sustains"; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
8 recognizes June 8th of 2022 as "World Oceans Day" in the State of Rhode Island, and the urgent  
9 importance of protecting and preserving our oceans and their resources; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the  
12 United Nations, Ms. Kate Sutter, Community Engagement Manager, the Ocean Project, and Mr.  
13 Stan Brajer, Chair, the Surfrider Foundation, Rhode Island Chapter.

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