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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "NATIONAL EMS WEEK" ON MAY
19-25, 2024, IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Gordon E. Rogers

Date Introduced: May 21, 2024

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) encompasses an entire field of
2 emergency care and medical assistance providers that are activated by an incident that potentially
3 causes serious illness or injury, and is a vital and essential public service; and

4 WHEREAS, At the end of 2022, there were 4,238 licensed EMS practitioners in 83 EMS
5 agencies in Rhode Island; and

6 WHEREAS, The skilled members of these emergency medical services teams are always
7 ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

8 WHEREAS, Access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and
9 recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

10 WHEREAS, Emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important,
11 out-of-hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or
14 volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to
15 enhance their lifesaving skills; and

16 WHEREAS, Rhode Island has five licensed levels of EMS practitioners, Emergency
17 Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced Emergency
18 Medical Technician (AEMT), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician-Cardiac (AEMT-C),
19 and Paramedic; and

1 WHEREAS, The emergency medical services system consists of first responders,
2 emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police
3 officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians,
4 trained members of the public, and other out-of-hospital medical care providers; and

5 WHEREAS, This year's EMS Week's theme is "Honoring Our Past, Forging Our
6 Future" and it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of our emergency
7 medical services providers; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates
9 "National EMS Week" and encourages all Rhode Islanders recognize the contributions of EMS
10 professionals and the essential service they provide to our communities; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Marc R. Pappas, Director of the Rhode Island
13 Emergency Management Agency.

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