

2019 -- H 5199

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**RECOGNIZING THE FETUS AS A HUMAN LIFE UPON THE EXISTENCE OF A
HEARTBEAT**

Introduced By: Representatives McLaughlin, Corvese, Hull, and Fellela

Date Introduced: January 25, 2019

Referred To: House Judiciary

1 WHEREAS, There exists a continuing debate in this nation and state as to abortion and
2 ascertaining the moment that human life begins; and

3 WHEREAS, Upon fertilization, an egg becomes a zygote. Shortly thereafter, the zygote
4 splits into two cells, and is called a two-celled embryo. When it splits into four cells, it is called a
5 four-celled embryo, etc.; and

6 WHEREAS, If an embryo is then nourished and protected, it will proceed, uninterrupted,
7 through the developmental stages from embryo to fetus; and

8 WHEREAS, There is sound scientific evidence that the heart of a fetus begins beating at
9 about the eighteenth through the twenty-fourth day of fetal development and that this heartbeat,
10 sometimes described as a "flutter", indicates and is recognized as the existence of life; and

11 WHEREAS, Today, advances in medical care have greatly improved the chances for
12 survival of fetuses born preterm; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
14 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes that the existence of a fetal heartbeat or flutter is
15 evidence of the existence of human life and that advancements in the field of prenatal care are
16 dramatically improving survival for babies born preterm.

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