

**2018 -- H 8064**

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LC005384  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018**

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**H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N**

**RECOGNIZING APRIL 16, 2018, AS "NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY" IN  
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, McNamara, Hull, Shanley, and Newberry

Date Introduced: April 05, 2018

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day, celebrated on April 16, is a national  
2 initiative to inspire, educate and empower the public about the importance of advance care  
3 planning. It is a collaborative effort of national, state and community organizations to encourage  
4 adults of all ages to plan ahead of a health crisis; and

5           WHEREAS, The Improving Care Coalition, a project of the Rhode Island State Nurses  
6 Association is the state liaison for National Healthcare Decisions Day; and

7           WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day will help Rhode Islanders understand  
8 that making future healthcare decisions includes much more than deciding what care they would  
9 or would not want; it starts with expressing preferences, clarifying values, identifying care  
10 preferences and selecting an agent to express healthcare decisions if patients are unable to speak  
11 for themselves; and

12           WHEREAS, Making healthcare decisions ahead of time and putting your wishes in  
13 writing brings peace of mind to families. It helps to avoid the difficult situations that are so  
14 common when a person becomes seriously ill and the family is left to guess what their loved one  
15 would have wanted; and

16           WHEREAS, An advance directives document speaks for your healthcare decisions if you  
17 can't speak for yourself. Everyone needs an advocate; and

18           WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day may encourage Rhode Islanders to start  
19 the conversation about advance directives with their families rather than delaying that discussion;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day educates and empowers the public and  
3 healthcare providers to take part in important advance care planning and encourages patients to  
4 discuss the topic with their healthcare providers to; and

5 WHEREAS, National Healthcare Decisions Day is an event that provides the opportunity  
6 to advocate for a good life that honors a person's healthcare wishes; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
8 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes April 16, 2018, as "National Health Care Decision  
9 Day" in the State of Rhode Island. We urge and encourage all the citizens of the state to learn  
10 about advance care planning for themselves and their loved ones; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Director Nicole Alexander-Scott, Rhode Island  
13 Department of Health, and The Improving Care Coalition, a project of the Rhode Island State  
14 Nurses Association.

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