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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING "NATIONAL OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA AWARENESS WEEK"  
ON MAY 4 - 11, 2024

Introduced By: Senators Britto, and Lawson

Date Introduced: May 03, 2024

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, National OI Awareness Week is a time to raise awareness for Osteogenesis  
2 Imperfecta and a time for those living with OI to share their "Unbreakable Spirit." The week is  
3 centered around "Wishbone Day" on May 6, which is the International OI Awareness Day; and

4           WHEREAS, Osteogenesis Imperfecta is a rare and complex genetic disorder that anyone  
5 can be born with; however, people with a family history of the disease are at greater risk of  
6 inheriting the disease through an abnormal gene that is passed on from one or both parents; and

7           WHEREAS, OI is caused by a change in one's collagen which is the major protein  
8 present in bone, and which causes the bones to break easily. This mutation affects bone  
9 composition, formation, and strength, as well as the structure of other tissues; and

10           WHEREAS, While brittle bones are the major feature of OI, many other body systems  
11 may be affected including dental issues, hearing loss, muscle weakness, cardiac and respiratory  
12 issues; and

13           WHEREAS, Infants who have recognizable OI at birth make up about 1 in every 16,000  
14 to 20,000 births. The incidence rate is similar in people with milder forms of OI that become  
15 apparent later in life; and

16           WHEREAS, OI affects all genders, races and ethnic groups equally and a person who is  
17 born with OI is affected throughout his or her lifetime; and

18           WHEREAS, In the United States, an estimated 25,000 to 50,000 people have the  
19 condition; and

1           WHEREAS, There is no cure for OI. Treatment focuses on minimizing fractures, the  
2 surgical correction of deformity, reducing bone fragility, and maximizing mobility and  
3 independent function; and

4           WHEREAS, The purpose of OI Awareness Day is to improve the quality of life for those  
5 living with OI through research, and by fostering support, raising awareness, and providing vital  
6 information to our communities, medical professionals and caregivers; now, therefore be it

7           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates  
8 "National Osteogenesis Imperfecta Awareness Week" on May 4 – 11, 2024, and urges all Rhode  
9 Islanders to join together to bring awareness and focus attention on this rare disorder; and be it  
10 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 the RI Department of Health, Susan Kortick,  
13 RN, Group Coordinator for the OI RI Support Group, and Chris Partington.

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