



# RIEEA

Rhode Island Environmental  
Education Association

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On Behalf of the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

**In Support of H-7230 – NATIVE PLANT MONTH**

House Special Legislation

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) supports **H-7230**, and respectfully urges its passage.

Designating May as Rhode Island Native Plant Month would enhance awareness and provide valuable educational opportunities concerning the state's native plant species, which contribute to mitigating climate change impacts. Education remains an essential, yet frequently underemphasized, means of addressing the climate crisis and related environmental challenges. Notably, a recent article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences<sup>1</sup> identified strengthening climate education and public engagement as one of six critical societal transformations required to confront the climate crisis effectively.

The RIEEA membership includes over 400 individuals including youth and students as well as 79 organizations<sup>2</sup> including Audubon Society of Rhode Island, Save The Bay, the Rhode Island Conservation Districts, and Rhode Island College. RIEEA's membership and supporters care deeply about Rhode Island's natural places, our health, and environmental and economic stability.

**I encourage you to pass this important legislation, H-7230.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.pnas.org/content/117/5/2354>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.rieea.org/about-us/organizational-members/>