

2023 -- H 5139

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

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

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JAMES
GORMAN HAGAN**

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Solomon, Shekarchi, Blazejewski,
Chippendale, J. Brien, Edwards, McGaw, McNamara, and Cortvriend
Date Introduced: January 17, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deepest sorrow that this House has learned of the passing of the
2 Honorable James Gorman Hagan, the beloved husband of Sheila for forty-nine years, the proud
3 father of Kelly Hagan and her husband, Richard Lumazza, and James Hagan and his wife,
4 Stephanie, and the cherished “Papa” of Mia Hagan Lumazza; and

5 WHEREAS, “Jim” as he was known to family and friends, was the son of the late Joseph
6 Henry Hagan and Claire Gorman Hagan. He grew up in the Oak Hill neighborhood of Pawtucket
7 and attended La Salle Academy and Providence College, serving as President of his class for all
8 four years; and

9 WHEREAS, Extremely proud and dedicated to his alma maters, Mr. Hagan was inducted
10 into the La Salle Hall of Fame in 2008, and served as MC for many LSA Hall of Fame induction
11 dinners. Upon graduation from PC, he remained a devoted and Faithful Friar, as a season ticket
12 holder for more than sixty years, and as the President of the Alumni Association and a longtime
13 member of the President’s Council; and

14 WHEREAS, After graduating from college, Mr. Hagan served as a First Lieutenant in the
15 US Army Intelligence Corps. He later served as Senior Vice President in the international
16 division of Tupperware Worldwide for twenty-seven years; and

17 WHEREAS, To the good fortune of all Rhode Islanders, the Honorable Jim Hagan chose
18 to devote his considerable talents and passion to political endeavors, initially as President of the
19 North Smithfield Town Council, and ultimately, with the love and support of his wife, Sheila,

1 who served as his de facto campaign manager and consigliere, he served for five terms as a
2 Rhode Island State Senator; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to his family, employment, and politics, the Honorable Jim
4 Hagan served the people of Providence and our state as President of the Greater Providence
5 Chamber of Commerce for almost twenty years, and was the former President of the New
6 England Chamber of Commerce Executives Association and the Vice-Chairman of the American
7 Chamber of Commerce Executives Association. He took great pride in being an active member
8 and driving force on the 'Providence Renaissance' team that created the City's celebrated
9 Waterfire, the television show 'Providence', the RI Convention Center, and the RI Business
10 Expo; and

11 WHEREAS, Never one to remain idle, after retiring Mr. Hagan was the moderator of the
12 'Lively Experiment' on PBS for five years, and was an avid golfer who created and produced the
13 New England Golf Expo, was a former Director of the Sakonnet Golf Club, and was a Member of
14 the Sakonnet Point Club and the University Club. He was a board member of Collette Vacations,
15 Sovereign Bank, the Northern RI Advisory Board of Fleet Bank and a Corporator of the
16 Woonsocket Institution for Savings; and

17 WHEREAS, The Honorable Jim Hagan led a glorious life filled with distinguished and
18 widely-admired accomplishments for which he was honored with the US Senator John H. Chafee
19 Distinguished Citizen Award and the North Smithfield Citizen of the Year Award; and

20 WHEREAS, As a devoted family man, a role model, a mentor and inspiration, and a
21 loyal friend, Jim Hagan was a Rhode Island gem and a shining example of a life well lived, and
22 he will be dearly missed and always remembered; now, therefore be It

23 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
24 extends deepest condolences on the passing of the Honorable James Gorman Hagan; and be it
25 further

26 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
27 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Sheila Hagan and Family.

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