

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JAMES  
GORMAN HAGAN

Introduced By: Senators de la Cruz, Paolino, Murray, DiPalma, Ruggerio, Tikoian, and  
Felag

Date Introduced: January 24, 2023

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deepest sorrow that this Senate 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 Collete 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 Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends deepest  
24 condolences on the passing of the Honorable James Gorman Hagan; and be it further

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

=====  
LC000684  
=====