

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JOHN J. MONAGHAN, JR.

Introduced By: Senators Pearson, Picard, F. Lombardi, Felag, Paolino, E Morgan,
Tikoian, Rogers, Quezada, and Lauria

Date Introduced: May 09, 2023

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of John J.
2 Monaghan, Jr., of Cumberland, the beloved husband of the late Joan Monaghan; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Monaghan was born in Watertown, Massachusetts, the son of the late
4 John and Helen Monaghan. A bright student, Mr. Monaghan graduated from Brown University in
5 1955 with a degree in the classics, and maintained a close lifelong relationship with his alma
6 mater. He served nearly 25 years as a member of the Brown Alumni Monthly Board, earning the
7 Alumni Service Award; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Monaghan was a distinguished journalist for 47 years. He began his
9 chosen profession in 1951, working as a vacation relief reporter at the Pawtucket Times. He
10 would spend most of his journalist career at the Providence Journal and the Evening Bulletin. As
11 a reporter, he covered local, state and national politics, and his coverage of the anti-poverty
12 program earned him a Pulitzer Prize nomination in 1968; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Monaghan steadily rose through the ranks at the Providence Journal,
14 earning promotions to the position of Assistant City Editor of the Evening Bulletin, and later City
15 Editor, before his elevation to Managing Editor in the early 1980s. Under his guidance, leadership
16 and direction, the Providence Journal won the New England Newspaper Association Newspaper
17 of the Year Award. He remained at the Providence Journal until his retirement in 1998; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Monaghan has been a civic leader his entire adult life. He served on the
19 Cumberland Conservation Commission for ten years, the Cumberland Boys Club Board for four
20 years, and was the founding member and First Chairperson of the Cumberland High School

1 Parents' Advisory Group; and

2 WHEREAS, In his free time, Mr. Monaghan was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed
3 spending time at his second home in West Ossipee, New Hampshire, canoeing, skiing,
4 snowshoeing, and hiking in the White Mountains. In retirement, he enjoyed travelling with his
5 wife, Joan, across the United States and Europe. His travel exploits became the subject of his
6 written pieces for the Providence Sunday Journal; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Monaghan leaves behind his children, John Monaghan and his wife,
8 Judy, James Monaghan, and Ellen Monaghan. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, Lindsay,
9 Darcy, Tyler, Fiona, Ailis, and Sinead Monaghan, and his sisters, Sheila Harvey and Mary
10 Laporte; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby expresses its deepest
12 condolences on the passing of John J. Monaghan, Sr., and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to John Monaghan and Family, James Monaghan
15 and Ellen Monaghan.

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