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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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SENATE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF EDITH LITTLEFIELD BLANE

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, and DiMario

Date Introduced: June 12, 2024

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Edith  
2 Littlefield Blane, the beloved wife of the late Edward Blane, and the cherished mother of  
3 Christopher Blane, her daughter-in-law, Cheryl Blane, and the late Peter Blane, she was also the  
4 adored grandmother of Melanie Wilk, and great-grandmother of Luke Wilk, as well as the aunt of  
5 many nieces and nephews; and

6           WHEREAS, Mrs. Blane, known as “Edie” by her family and many friends, was born in  
7 South Norwalk, Connecticut, and grew up on Block Island with a “childhood rich in family and  
8 community.” She was the daughter of the late Byron and Jeanette Littlefield, and the sister of the  
9 late Eileen and Betty. She had made her home in the house that had been in her father’s mother’s  
10 family for generations; and

11           WHEREAS, A woman of remarkable talent and longevity, Mrs. Blane had been the first  
12 woman elected First Warden on Block Island, and had previously served for sixteen years as the  
13 Town Clerk. She had also worked as a school secretary, a telephone switchboard operator,  
14 publisher of the Block Island Hooter, ran a business with her sister, Eileen, wallpapering,  
15 painting, and quahogging, and had started the real estate company, Offshore Property, from  
16 which she retired at the age of 85; and

17           WHEREAS, Not one to remain idle, Mrs. Blane became a noted raconteur and gifted  
18 writer, penning a book of memoirs after her retirement that was entitled “Bound By Blue” from  
19 which she also produced a documentary that was featured at the 2023 Block Island Film Festival  
20 in tribute to her remarkable life. The documentary also won the New England Documentary

1 Feature at the SENE Film Festival in 2022; and

2 WHEREAS, Throughout her life, Mrs. Blane was devoted to her faith and had been the  
3 longest standing member of the Harbor Church. Her dedication to the community had also  
4 earned her the title of Grand Marshal of the July 4th parade; and

5 WHEREAS, Edie loved nature, her dogs, her flowers, her friends, and her family —  
6 especially her great-grandson Luke Wilk. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, great-  
7 grandmother, friend, mentor, businesswoman, and civic leader whose life was filled with  
8 adventure and fully enjoyed, and she is dearly missed; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends deepest  
10 sympathy on the passing of Edith Littlefield Blane; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Christopher Blane and Family.

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