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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF CAROL LEE CONNELL

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, McGaw,
Kennedy, McNamara, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Phillips, and Bennett
Date Introduced: February 26, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Carol Lee
2 Connell, the beloved wife of the late William Thomas Connell, who was the love of her life, and
3 the devoted mother of our friend and colleague, William Connell, Esq. and his wife, Diane,
4 Nancy Rippel and her husband, Brian, and Michael Connell; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in the City of Providence, Mrs. Connell was the daughter of the late
6 Bernard and Helen Davol, and the cousin of Barbara Donahue. She was a proud graduate of
7 Warren High School; and

8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Connell created a warm and welcoming home in Riverside, where she
9 resided for fifty-five years. She especially loved spending time with her precious grandchildren
10 and great-grandchild, who were her pride and joy, and the light of her life; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to her family, for thirteen years, Mrs. Connell had been
12 employed as a cashier at the former Almac's Supermarket, where she always happily greeted
13 customers with a warm smile and a friendly hello. She had also generously donated her time as a
14 PTA officer for St. Raphael Academy; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Connell drew great strength, comfort, and guidance from her faith. She
16 was a devoted communicant of St. Brendan Church and had formerly been a parishioner of St.
17 Casimir Church; and

18 WHEREAS, For many years, Mrs. Connell was a member of the Kendbrin Swim and
19 Tennis Club and greatly enjoyed spending time with her many friends and playing tennis. She
20 also found great happiness in relaxing days spent at Warren Beach, luncheons with dear friends,

1 and traveling with her family; and

2 WHEREAS, Carol Connell will always be remembered “for her gentle spirit, unwavering
3 love for her family, and the kindness she extended to all who knew her. Her legacy lives on in the
4 hearts of those she touched”; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
6 extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of Carol Lee Connell;
7 and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to William Connell, Esq. and Family, Nancy
10 Rippel and Family, and Michael Connell.

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