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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THOMAS JOSEPH HOLLAND

Introduced By: Senators Lawson, Lauria, DiPalma, Acosta, DiMario, Famiglietti,
Appollonio, Urso, Tikoian, and Vargas
Date Introduced: February 10, 2026

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Thomas
2 Joseph Holland, the devoted husband of the late Veronica "Ronnie" Holland for 55 years. Thomas
3 was a beloved father, grandfather and good friend to many; and

4 WHEREAS, Thomas Joseph Holland was born in Brooklyn, New York and grew up with
5 a loving family that had recently immigrated from Ireland. After graduating from college in 1959,
6 Thomas married Veronica, the love of his life, and together they built a beautiful life in Rhode
7 Island while raising their three daughters, Marybeth Holland O’Hearn, Patricia Holland Draves,
8 and Margaret Holland McDuff. Throughout his life, Mr. Holland strongly embraced the
9 principles and values of family, education, and hard work; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom worked tirelessly throughout his life to provide for his family and
11 loved ones and was able to do so thanks to his highly successful career in sales and marketing for
12 specialty chemical companies. He took great pride in assisting and advising his clients to
13 successfully bring their visions and ideas to fruition; and

14 WHEREAS, In retirement, Tom and his wife enjoyed the snowbird lifestyle, as they
15 divided their time between Cape Cod and Fort Myers, Florida. Both homes became gathering
16 places for their children and grandchildren, where many living room “musical shows” were held,
17 along with joyous 4th of July lobster celebrations; and

18 WHEREAS, After his wife’s passing, Mr. Holland devoted his life to the Secular
19 Franciscan Order, living out the Gospel through charity, humility and kindness within the
20 nurturing communities at St. Columbkille Church in Fort Myers, later at St. Patrick Church in

1 Grand River, Iowa, and most recently at the Immaculate Conception Church in Monmouth,
2 Illinois; and

3 WHEREAS, In his final years, Mr. Holland settled in the Midwest with his daughter
4 Patricia and her husband, Jeffrey, where he shared his New York humor and sensibilities with his
5 new-found friends; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to his children, Marybeth Holland O'Hearn, Patricia Holland
7 Draves, and Margaret Holland McDuff, Mr. Holland leaves behind his six grandchildren, Kati,
8 Kara, Benjamin, William, Thomas, and Matthew, his sister, Peggy, and two sons-in-law, Jeffrey
9 and Michael. Mr. Holland was preceded in death by his wife, Veronica, his granddaughter,
10 Alison, his son-in-law, Tom, his brother, Edward, and other family members; 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 Thomas Joseph Holland; 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 Marybeth Holland O'Hearn, Patricia Holland
15 Draves, and Margaret Holland McDuff.

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