

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF WILLIAM WALSH  
CORCORAN

Introduced By: Senator Dawn M. Euer

Date Introduced: January 26, 2021

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of William  
2 Walsh Corcoran, the beloved husband of the late Mary Corcoran, the devoted father and father-  
3 in-law of Mary Ellen Corcoran, William and Karen Corcoran, Andrew Corcoran, Mardie  
4 Corcoran and Paul Leys, Frank Corcoran, Jane Corcoran and Tony Leach, Dave Galvin and the  
5 late Anne Corcoran Galvin. He was the proud grandfather of fourteen grandchildren; and

6           WHEREAS, William Corcoran, affectionately known as “Bill” to his many friends, and  
7 “Pop” to his loving family, was a life-long resident of the City of Newport. He was the brother of  
8 Michael Corcoran, Edward Corcoran, Sr. Anne Corcoran, and the late Rev. John Corcoran. He  
9 graduated from Rogers High School and the Portsmouth Priory, and earned his Bachelor's degree  
10 from Brown University and his Juris Doctor from Boston College Law School; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Corcoran served our country as a deep sea diver in the United States  
12 Navy, where he specialized in submarine rescue. Upon completing his service, he began a long  
13 and successful career as an attorney and senior counsel at Corcoran, Peckham, Hayes, Leys &  
14 Olaynack, P.C.; and

15           WHEREAS, In 1966, Mr. Corcoran was elected to the Newport City Council, serving  
16 from 1967 until 1971. He was also a member of the Redevelopment Agency of Newport, where  
17 his efforts and vision helped to transform the City by the Sea's waterfront from an industrial  
18 center to a renowned scenic harbor and successful shopping district; and

19           WHEREAS, A staunch advocate for historical preservation, Mr. Corcoran lent his legal

1 expertise to the Newport Preservation Society, brokering the purchase of some of the Society's  
2 most significant properties. He remained an active member of the Preservation Society for  
3 decades. He was also a trustee for the John Clarke Trust for more than four decades, a member of  
4 the Thompson Scholarship Committee, the Council for the Visiting Nurse Service for many  
5 decades, and a member of the Board of Directors of Bank Newport for more than four decades;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Bill Corcoran was a beloved family man, a friend to many, and a dedicated  
8 and altruistic member of his community, who opened his heart to all and Lily Pond to anyone  
9 who loved fishing and ice skating. He will be dearly missed and always remembered; now,  
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends deepest  
12 condolences to the Corcoran Family on the passing of William Walsh Corcoran; 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 Mary Ellen Corcoran, William Corcoran,  
15 Andrew Corcoran, Mardie Corcoran, Frank Corcoran, and Jane Corcoran.

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