

2022 -- H 7006

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOHN
PATRICK SHANLEY, JR.

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McEntee, Fogarty, Tanzi,
Ruggiero, Carson, Filippi, Kennedy, and Messier

Date Introduced: January 06, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the
2 Honorable John Patrick Shanley, Jr., our friend and former colleague, and the beloved husband of
3 Elaine Shanley, the cherished father of Ann Gardner and her husband, Richmond, and Margaret
4 Murphy, and the very proud and loving grandfather of Delia and Declan Foley; and

5 WHEREAS, Pat, as he was fondly known by family and friends, was born in the City of
6 Providence, the son of the late Esther Joyce and John Patrick Shanley, and the brother of Mary
7 McDonald and her husband, Arthur, and Miles Shanley and his wife, Madeline. He was a
8 graduate of Bishop Hendricken High School, received his Bachelor's degree in Political Science
9 from Providence College, and after serving our country with honor in the United States Army
10 during the VietNam War, he returned stateside and earned his Master's degree in Sociology with
11 a concentration in Criminal Justice at the University of Rhode Island; and

12 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Pat maintained a deep commitment to political action
13 and social justice. He was elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives serving the
14 people of District 35 in South Kingstown from January of 2001 through January of 2009. During
15 his years at the General Assembly, he was on numerous committees including Finance, Municipal
16 Government, Co-Vice Chair of Veterans' Affairs, and having earned the deepest respect of his
17 fellow Representatives, was named a Deputy Majority Leader; and

18 WHEREAS, In addition, Pat had been employed with the Rhode Island Department of
19 Corrections, initially as a Probation and Parole officer specializing in juvenile cases, and later as a

1 Supervisor, retiring in 1994. He had also owned and operated several businesses, was an
2 Associate Professor of criminology at the Roger Williams University School of Justice Studies,
3 Grant Writer for the Justice Assistance Corporation, and had held many local leadership roles in
4 the Democratic Party. He furthermore served on a plethora of State and local government boards
5 including the Town of South Kingstown Board of Canvassers, the Town Moderator and Treasurer
6 on the Board of Parks and Recreation, Rhode Island Blue Cross and Blue Shield, on the Board of
7 Directors for the United Cerebral Palsy Association, the Juvenile Advisory Board, and the Rhode
8 Island Emergency 911 Commission; and

9 WHEREAS, In the community, Pat was a member of numerous altruistic and social
10 organizations including membership in the Elks Lodge in Wakefield, and Pinecrest Golf Club in
11 Richmond, and volunteered with the South County Community Action, Seniors Helping Others,
12 and the Johnycake Center. He was very proud of his Irish heritage and was a member of the Sons
13 of the Irish Kings and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; and

14 WHEREAS, Pat Shanley was "a big man, with a big voice, and a huge heart." His wit
15 and magnetism drew friends to him and made him the "Go-to Guy" for many, and his boundless
16 love for his family and his lifetime of accomplishments will be forever remembered and deeply
17 missed; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
19 extends its heartfelt condolences on the passing of the Honorable John Patrick Shanley, Jr. "Death
20 leaves a heartache no one can heal; Love leaves a memory no one can steal"; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Elaine Shanley and Family.

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