

2010 -- S 3002

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES
ON THE PASSING OF ABRAHAM NATHANSON

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Perry, Sheehan, McBurney, and Walaska

Date Introduced: June 09, 2010

Referred To: Senate read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of
2 Abraham Nathanson, a jewelry designer, a renowned photographer, an entrepreneur, and a
3 beloved father; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Pawtucket to the late Joseph and Anna Nathanson, Abraham
5 Nathanson was the devoted father of Rena Nathanson, Brenda Moore, and Dana Nathanson, and
6 the proud grandfather of four grandchildren. He is also survived by his two brothers, Morris and
7 Nathan Nathanson, and his former wife, Sandra Nathanson; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduation from Pawtucket East Senior High School, Mr. Nathanson
9 served our country in the United States Army. He returned from the service and continued his
10 education, attending the Pratt Institute, where he studied graphic and industrial design; and

11 WHEREAS, Always industrious, Mr. Nathanson and his brother, Morris, founded a
12 commercial design studio. He later purchased an historic mill complex and founded George
13 Nathan Design; and

14 WHEREAS, The Nathansons were also founding members of the Trinity Repertory
15 Theatre, one of the most important cultural institutions in Rhode Island. The loss of Abraham
16 Nathanson is particularly poignant to members of the Theatre's "family," as they have recently
17 suffered the loss of three others, actor George Martin, board member and benefactor Charles
18 Sullivan, and Musical Director Richard "DeeDee" Cumming; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Nathanson's passion and talent for artistic endeavors resulted in

1 successful showings of his beautiful photographs in numerous art galleries. He also wrote and
2 illustrated a number of children's books; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Nathanson made time in his life to be a family man and
4 great dad. His invention of the ever-popular game "Bananagrams" stemmed from his family's
5 love of spending time together and game-playing. When Scrabble, Boggle, and other
6 commercially-available board games failed to meet the family's traveling and speed
7 requirements, Mr. Nathanson simply invented a new game. Bananagrams was an instant hit; and

8 WHEREAS, Abraham Nathanson's life and achievements will live on for many years to
9 come in the memories of everyone fortunate enough to have been touched by the quality of this
10 remarkable gentleman, and even though we are diminished by this loss and mourn his passing, so
11 must we celebrate the spirit, creativity, and passion with which he lived every day of his life;
12 now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
14 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the entire Nathanson family on the passing of
15 Abraham Nathanson; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Rena Nathanson, Brenda Moore, Dana
18 Nathanson, Morris Nathanson, and Nathan Nathanson.

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