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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE GIFFORDS FOR HER  
SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF ARIZONA AND THE UNITED STATES

Introduced By: Senator James C. Sheehan

Date Introduced: January 25, 2012

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords joined the United States Congress on  
2 January 4<sup>th</sup> of 2007, representing the people of Arizona's 8<sup>th</sup> District, a 9,000-square mile district  
3 that includes a 114-mile border with Mexico, significant parts of Tucson and Pima County, all of  
4 Cochise County, and two key military installations: Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson  
5 and Fort Huachuca in Sierra Vista; and

6           WHEREAS, Representative Giffords quickly established herself as a leading champion  
7 of border security, energy independence, and the needs of military families and veterans, all  
8 issues of great concern to her constituency. She has also been a strong supporter of fiscal  
9 responsibility, bipartisanship, and government accountability, and an outspoken supporter of  
10 health care reform and economic fairness for poor and middle-class families; and

11           WHEREAS, On January 8<sup>th</sup> of 2011, Representative Giffords, along with twenty-one  
12 others, was fired upon while attending a town hall-style meeting outside a grocery store in  
13 Tucson. Tragically, six individuals lost their lives. Senator Giffords was critically injured, the  
14 victim of a gunshot wound to the head; and

15           WHEREAS, With a strength that those who knew her never doubted, Representative  
16 Giffords fought her way through surgery and a rigorous schedule of physical, occupational, and  
17 speech therapy in very much the same way she lives her life, with strength, commitment, and  
18 courage; and

19           WHEREAS, Representative Giffords is stepping down from Congress for now, citing her

1 continued work toward recovery, but she has promised her constituency that she will "...return  
2 and work together for Arizona and this great country"; and

3 WHEREAS, Representative Giffords' courage and determination in the face of adversity  
4 are inspirational. As President Obama noted, her dedication to the people of Arizona and our  
5 country "embodies the very best of what public service should be"; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
7 hereby honors, applauds, and thanks The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords for her service to the  
8 people of the State of Arizona and across our country. We furthermore extend our sincere wishes  
9 for her continued success and much happiness; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Gabrielle Giffords.

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