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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013**

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**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RETIRED RHODE ISLAND  
SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE JOSEPH R. WEISBERGER**

Introduced By: Representatives Fox, Mattiello, Newberry, Ucci, and Blazejewski

Date Introduced: January 02, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness and regret that this House of Representatives has  
2 learned of the passing of The Honorable Joseph R. Weisberger, retired Chief Justice of the Rhode  
3 Island Supreme Court and a highly respected adjudicator who dedicated fifty-six years of service  
4 to the citizens and Judiciary of Rhode Island; and

5           WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Chief Justice Weisberger was the husband of sixty  
6 years to Sylvia Weisberger, and together the couple had raised three children, J. Robert  
7 Weisberger, Jr., Judith Greene, and the late Paula W. Wroblewski. He was the beloved  
8 grandfather of Joseph Weisberger, III, Justin Weisberger, Anya Wroblewski, and Robert  
9 Wroblewski, Jr., and is also survived by his daughter-in-law, Gail Weisberger, and his son-in-  
10 law, Gordon Greene, II; and

11           WHEREAS, Born in Providence, a son of the late Samuel and Ann Elizabeth Weisberger,  
12 Chief Justice Weisberger had made his home in Riverside for 56 years. In 1941, while an  
13 undergraduate at Brown University, Chief Justice Weisberger interrupted his studies and joined  
14 the United States Navy, where he served in the Pacific. He returned stateside and continued his  
15 education, earning degrees from Brown University and Harvard Law School; and

16           WHEREAS, At the age of thirty-five, after serving briefly as a Rhode Island State  
17 Senator, Chief Justice Weisberger was appointed to the Rhode Island Judiciary in 1956. With  
18 dedication and amazing legal acumen, he rose from the Superior Court to the high court. He  
19 became an Associate Justice in 1978 and was named acting Chief Justice of the Rhode Island

1 Supreme Court in 1993. In 1995, he was permanently appointed to the position of Chief Justice  
2 of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, which he held until his retirement at the age of 80; and

3 WHEREAS, Chief Justice Weisberger possessed a brilliant mind and a fair and  
4 magnanimous spirit. He had the love of his family and friends, earned the admiration of his  
5 peers, and was eminently worthy of the gratitude of all Rhode Islanders. He will be profoundly  
6 missed by those who had the good fortune to be a part of his vital and fulfilling life; now,  
7 therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
9 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to his wife, Sylvia, and the  
10 entire Weisberger family on the passing of The Honorable Chief Justice Weisberger. He will  
11 forever be remembered as a highly respected and admired judge who presided with fairness and  
12 justice, and served the people of the State of Rhode Island with integrity and excellence; and be it  
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to  
15 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Sylvia Weisberger and Family.

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