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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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

**EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JOSEPH T. FEELEY,
ESQ.**

Introduced By: Representatives Lally, Tanzi, and Naughton

Date Introduced: January 08, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1 EWHEREAS, It is with deep regret and sadness that this House has learned of the
2 passing of our friend and colleague, Joseph Thomas Patrick Feeley, on Wednesday, October 17,
3 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in the Bronx, Joe Feeley was the son of the late Mary and Joseph
5 Feeley. He was the loving husband of Barbara Feeley, the devoted father of Kristen and her
6 husband, Neal Bourn, Michaela, and Erin, and a loving papa to Liam, Aidan, and Eoin Bourn. He
7 is also survived by his sisters, Ellen Feeley, Sheila Burke, and Patricia McBride; and

8 WHEREAS, Upon graduation from Fordham University in 1962, Joe served our country
9 with honor and distinction as a United States Marine during the Vietnam War. Stationed with the
10 1st battalion 3rd Marine division, Joe earned several Distinguished Service medals before his
11 retirement in 1966 at the rank of Captain; and

12 WHEREAS, Subsequent to his service in the Marines, Joe attained his Master's degree in
13 Business Administration from the University of San Diego. He later earned his law degree from
14 Suffolk University Law School. He and Barbara made their home in Cranston for many years,
15 and later moved to Narragansett; and

16 WHEREAS, In July of 1977, Joe began his service with the State of Rhode Island as a
17 Mental Health Advocate/Legal Advisor. In 1987, he was hired by the General Assembly's Joint
18 Committee on Legislative Services as an attorney with the Office of Legislative Council, a
19 position he held until his retirement on August 27th of 2011. In addition, Joe also served as

1 General Council to the Greater Providence Deposit Corporation for numerous years; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1983, Joe underwent a heart transplant at Stanford University Hospital.
3 In later years, he endured two subsequent kidney transplants and a multitude of procedures; and

4 WHEREAS, Though he was a man who cherished his privacy, Joe reached out to other
5 transplant families to share his experiences. He was a founding and active member of the Rhode
6 Island Organ Donor Awareness Coalition (RIODAC) and later served as a board member of the
7 New England Organ Bank; and

8 WHEREAS, Throughout his life and in spite of battles with his health, Joe maintained an
9 unending desire to take care of his family and always upheld a strict Yankee work ethic. His
10 courage, optimism, and dignity throughout his illness was inspiring and his sharp Irish wit and
11 amazing sense of humor were endearing and will be sorely missed by all who had the good
12 fortune to have shared his life; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
14 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the entire Feeley Family on
15 the passing of Joseph T. Feeley; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Barbara Feeley and Family.

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