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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING RAYMOND EDLER, BOB HUGHES, AND THE BARRINGTON AND  
WARREN FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS FOR THEIR HEROIC EFFORTS IN RESCUING  
MICHAEL MARSHALL FROM THE WARREN RIVER

Introduced By: Senators Bates, Hodgson, Felag, Algieri, and Kettle

Date Introduced: January 08, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Many people go through their lives without any personal contact with a  
2 potential life and death situation, without that defining moment that turns an ordinary person into  
3 a hero. Raymond Edler, Assistant Harbor Master Bob Hughes, and firefighters and EMTs from  
4 Barrington and Warren faced such a challenge, and in that moment of crisis, without hesitation,  
5 they did the extraordinary and saved the life of Bristol resident, Michael Marshall; and

6           WHEREAS, The peace and tranquility of Mr. Marshall's and Mr. Edler's kayak journey  
7 across the Warren River on a beautiful sunny day in August abruptly became a life-and-death  
8 situation for Mr. Marshall when the two men's kayak capsized. The incident triggered a heart  
9 attack in Mr. Marshall, who struggled to stay afloat; and

10           WHEREAS, As Mr. Edler pulled his drowning friend's head above the water, he  
11 simultaneously hailed two nearby kayakers, who then towed the two men toward the Rumstick  
12 Point shoreline; and

13           WHEREAS, Once on shore, Mr. Edler alerted a nearby resident to call 911. First on the  
14 scene were Barrington firefighters and EMTs, but Mr. Marshall's critical condition and the  
15 unwieldy marsh and small rivers between the waiting ambulance and Mr. Marshall made rescue  
16 nearly impossible; and

17           WHEREAS, A new plan of action was quickly devised by Assistant Harbor Master Bob  
18 Hughes, who had been alerted to the incident by the fire dispatcher. Mr. Hughes swiftly motored  
19 his boat to a nearby dock as four firefighters carried Mr. Marshall through the marsh to the

1 waiting boat; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes and two Barrington EMTs rapidly transported Mr. Marshall to  
3 Police Cove, where Warren EMTs were waiting to provide medical assistance and transportation  
4 to Rhode Island Hospital; and

5 WHEREAS, Because of the amazingly heroic efforts of everyone involved and the  
6 support and skill of numerous firefighters and EMTs, events that may well have ended tragically  
7 had a happy ending. Mr. Marshall, while having to endure four days in the hospital, two stents in  
8 his heart, and numerous medications, is home and resting and able to look forward to the future;  
9 now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
11 hereby recognizes and honors Raymond Edler, Bob Hughes, and the Barrington and Warren  
12 Firefighters and EMTs for their heroic and clear-headed actions during the most dire of  
13 circumstances. They are truly an inspiration and we extend best wishes for their continued good  
14 deeds, success, and good health; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
16 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mr. Raymond Edler, Mr. Robert Hughes, and  
17 the Barrington and Warren Fire Departments and EMTs.

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