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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY FOR THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AND
SUFFERED INJURIES DURING THE 2013 BOSTON MARATHON TERRORIST ATTACK
AND HONORING THE BRAVERY OF THE POLICE, FIREFIGHTERS, EMERGENCY
MEDICAL PERSONNEL, FBI AND OTHER FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
PERSONNEL, AND MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO RISKED THEIR SAFETY IN THE
AFTERMATH OF THE BOMBINGS

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey, and Lombardo

Date Introduced: April 23, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with heavy hearts that we extend our profound sympathies to our
2 neighbors in Massachusetts, fellow Rhode Islanders, and runners and onlookers from other parts
3 of the United States and from throughout the world whose lives were tragically altered by the
4 events of April 15, when a series of bombs went off during the Boston Marathon; and

5 WHEREAS, On April 15, 2013, at approximately 2:50 p.m., two bombs exploded on
6 Boylston Street during the Marathon, killing and injuring innocent people; and

7 WHEREAS, What should have been a day of triumph and celebration turned instead to
8 mayhem and unspeakable pain. In an instant, precious lives were lost and life-altering injuries
9 sustained; and

10 WHEREAS, This cowardly act of terrorism reminds us all that there are those in our
11 world who do not believe in our ideals of freedom and liberty. But the terrible events of April 15
12 also remind us of what separates us from those evildoers. When this attack occurred, brave people
13 stepped forward immediately to respond to those in need, running towards, not away from, the
14 danger. These courageous individuals showed us all that at a moment of great fear and crisis they
15 were willing to risk their own safety to offer aid to total strangers; and

16 WHEREAS, The response of law enforcement officials over the course of the next five
17 days also demonstrated the steel-like resolve that underlies and strengthens our nation. The whole

1 world watched as law enforcement personnel at the local, state, and federal levels worked
2 together tirelessly to locate the perpetrators and bring them to justice. Although the efforts of
3 these officers and agents resulted in the successful tracking down of two individuals believed to
4 be responsible for the heinous act, during the series of confrontations, many officers were fired
5 upon and injured, and one officer made the ultimate sacrifice; and

6 WHEREAS, While the immediate threat stemming from the bombings has dissipated, the
7 grieving period for families who lost their loved ones has just begun, and the healing process for
8 those who were injured during the tragic events will remain an on-going reality; now, therefore be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
11 hereby expresses our profound sympathy for those who lost their lives and suffered injuries
12 throughout the unfolding of the 2013 Boston Marathon terrorist attack. We also voice our
13 collective outrage at the cowardly actions of those who perpetrated the attack and honor the
14 bravery and heroism of the Boston police, Massachusetts State Police, area firefighters,
15 emergency medical personnel, and volunteers as they rushed forward to help the victims of this
16 terrible tragedy. We recognize, as well, the tremendous efforts of the law enforcement personnel--
17 including the Watertown police and FBI investigators and forensic specialists involved in the
18 final confrontation and apprehension--who simply would not rest until the suspects were no
19 longer a threat to public safety; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we urge all Rhode Islanders to take time to remember the families and
21 friends of those who were killed, injured, and traumatized by the tragic events of the week of
22 April 15. We also ask Rhode Islanders to support the work of those who are responsible for our
23 public safety; and be if further

24 RESOLVED, That in the wake of this terrorist act, we encourage Rhode Islanders to
25 stand up and demonstrate that the citizens of our great nation will not be intimidated or defined
26 by these despicable acts of terrorism, will not cower in fear in the face of adversity and tragedy,
27 and will continue to believe in, and fight for, the liberties and freedoms that have made the United
28 States a beacon for the world; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
30 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to The Honorable Massachusetts Governor Deval
31 Patrick, Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, and Watertown Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll.

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