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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING ROBERT THOMPSON ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE 2013  
RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE HALL OF FAME

Introduced By: Senators Metts, Pichardo, Ruggerio, Jabour, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: June 13, 2013

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, Robert "Bobby" Thompson is one of eleven former athletes who have  
2 earned the prestigious honor of being inducted into the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Hall  
3 of Fame in the Class of 2013; and

4           WHEREAS, Hall of Famers can be former high school athletes, coaches, administrators,  
5 or sportscasters who have distinguished themselves in city, state, and national athletic programs;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, Bobby Thompson was born in Raleigh, North Carolina. He later moved to  
8 Providence and attended Central High School, where he began an amazing athletic career that  
9 would bring him titles and accolades in football and indoor and outdoor track; and

10           WHEREAS, As a member of Central's Knights Track Team, Mr. Thompson won the  
11 state long jump title in 1964 and added state crowns in the 50, 100, and 220 yard dashes, and as  
12 the running back on the Central High football team, he earned Providence Journal All-State  
13 honors five times; and

14           WHEREAS, While attending Arizona Western Junior College, Mr. Thompson was  
15 named an All-Conference Defensive Back and an All-American Running Back, and after  
16 transferring to the University of Oklahoma, he helped lead his team to the Big 8 Conference  
17 Football Championship; and

18           WHEREAS, After college, Mr. Thompson played professional football in Canada where  
19 he still holds the record for the longest kickoff return in Saskatchewan history. He later played

1 for the Detroit Lions in the National Football League (NFL) until retiring from professional sports  
2 to become a special education science teacher and a football and track coach in Pontiac,  
3 Michigan; and

4 WHEREAS, As Bear Bryant, an American college football player and coach once said,  
5 "If you believe in yourself, have dedication and pride and never quit, you'll be a winner. The price  
6 of victory is high, but so are the rewards." Bobby Thompson has earned his place in the Hall of  
7 Fame. He is a wonderful role model and we are proud to celebrate his achievements; now,  
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
10 hereby applauds Robert Thompson for his myriad accomplishments and congratulates him on  
11 being inducted into the 2013 Rhode Island Interscholastic League Hall of Fame. We moreover  
12 wish him good health, continued success, and much happiness; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Robert Thompson.

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