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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING FATHER CLIFFORD CABRAL ON HIS RETIREMENT

Introduced By: Senator P Fogarty

Date Introduced: June 20, 2013

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, All too often those people who contribute to society the most are among the
2 least recognized. Their life's work touches many, while their characteristic modesty and emphasis
3 on the needs of others mean that these gifts are given with no expectation of reward or
4 reciprocation; and

5 WHEREAS, Father Clifford Cabral, Pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Pascoag, is one
6 such wonderful individual. He has spent his life reaching out to people in need and providing
7 them with loving encouragement, both one-on-one and from the altar. His kind, uplifting, and
8 profound words have led many to a more fulfilling spiritual existence; and

9 WHEREAS, Clifford J. Cabral was born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, to John and Lillian
10 Cabral. He graduated from Tiverton High School in 1970. After contemplating the priesthood for
11 some time, he entered the College Seminary of Our Lady of Providence in Warwick Neck,
12 graduating in 1974 with a Bachelor's degree in Literature; and

13 WHEREAS, Father Cabral was ordained into the priesthood after completing his
14 theological training at the American College of the University of Louvain in Belgium in 1978,
15 where he received a Master's Degree in Religious Studies. While in Europe, he assisted with
16 English Religious Education classes in Brussels and the Hague in Holland, as well as at several
17 American military bases in Germany; and

18 WHEREAS, Upon returning to Rhode Island, Father Cabral was appointed to Saint
19 Catherine's Parish, Warwick, as a transitory deacon. He was ordained a Priest on June 30, 1979,
20 in his home parish of Saint Christopher, Tiverton; and

1 WHEREAS, His first Mass of Thanksgiving was the next day at Saint Catherine's. Father
2 Cabral was assigned as the assistant pastor at Saint Luke's Church, Barrington, where he spent
3 the first eight years of ministry and especially enjoyed his role as Priest Moderator of the Young-
4 at-Heart Senior Group, which he was responsible for establishing. He was also the eighth grade
5 Religion teacher at that parish; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1987, Father Cabral was transferred to Saint Matthew's Church,
7 Cranston, as one of three assistants to the pastor. After being an ordained Priest for seventeen
8 years, Father Cabral was promoted to Pastor at Saint Joseph's Church, Pascoag, in 1996 where he
9 has remained for almost two decades; and

10 WHEREAS, Father Cabral has spent his life in devout service to God. Through that
11 unification, he has served and blessed the faithful, enriched the spiritual lives of many Rhode
12 Islanders, and earned our respect and admiration for his devotion and accomplishments; now,
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
15 hereby congratulates Father Clifford Cabral on his selfless and dedicated service to Saint Joseph's
16 Church and to the Catholic community throughout Rhode Island. We wish him the very best
17 health, future happiness, and continued success in his new ventures; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby authorized and directed to
19 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Father Clifford Cabral.

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