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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JOHN I. HOWELL, SR.

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Bennett, Trillo, Naughton, and McNamara

Date Introduced: March 18, 2014

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this House has learned of the passing of John I.
2 Howell, Sr., beloved husband of sixty-one years to the late Nelda Audibert Howell, loving father
3 of John Howell and his wife, Carol, and Claire Blatchford and her husband, Edward, grandfather
4 of Diana O'Brien, John Howell, III, Theodore Howell, Laurel Blatchford, and Christa Blatchford,
5 and eight beautiful great grandchildren. For the past decade, Mr. Howell had been devoted to
6 Marge Boger, his friend, his companion, and quite literally, his lifesaver; and

7 WHEREAS, The youngest of three sons born to the Rev. Alleyne and Rosalie Howell,
8 John Howell was a graduate of St. Paul's School and Yale University. Upon graduation, he
9 worked as a news reporter for PM, a New York City daily newspaper. He met his artistic and
10 vivacious wife Nelda and the two were married in 1941. They moved to Cleveland, Ohio and
11 shortly thereafter, started their family. Mr. Howell took employment as a reporter for the
12 Cleveland Plain Dealer, then moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked in the Division of
13 World Trade Intelligence; and

14 WHEREAS, In December of 1941, the United States declared war against Japan, and
15 three days later, upon Germany. Mr. Howell was determined to serve his country, and after his
16 eyesight resulted in his being rejected, he memorized the eye chart and successfully joined the
17 United States Army. He was assigned to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in Washington,
18 D.C., and was later sent to Burma and China, where he provided intelligence on Japanese
19 maneuvers; and

20 WHEREAS, After the war, Mr. Howell utilized his skills and intelligence background

1 working for the CIA as an under-cover banker. His efforts and finesse in finance, world affairs,
2 and commerce led to the next chapter of his career, with the J. Henry Schroder Banking
3 Corporation based in London, England, where he was named president of the company in 1962,
4 and chairman of the board in 1970; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Howell possessed an abundance of business acumen but he was also
6 endowed with an equal measure of compassion. As patriarch of his family, he worked to bring
7 and keep the family united and strong, and was often turned to for his sage advice and ability to
8 listen, understand, and bring out the best in others; and

9 WHEREAS, John Howell left this world a far better place because of his life's endeavors
10 and he enriched the lives of all who knew him. He will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
12 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of John Howell,
13 Sr.; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Marge Boger, John and Carol Howell, and
16 Claire and Edward Blatchford.

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