

2014 -- H 8340

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE SISTER CITIES OF COVENTRY, RHODE ISLAND AND VANNES,
FRANCE**

Introduced By: Representatives Guthrie, Tomasso, Serpa, and Nunes

Date Introduced: June 17, 2014

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, After the devastation of World War II, some European cities began sister-
2 city organizations with the hope of healing and repairing some of the personal damage created by
3 the war. One such city was Coventry, England. The city of Coventry had been virtually destroyed
4 and reduced to rubble during the war; and

5 WHEREAS, In the summer of 1970, the Lord Mayor of Coventry visited Coventry,
6 Connecticut and Coventry, Rhode Island, to initiate a cultural relationship between his city and
7 these two towns. Thus was born the "Coventry Friendship Link." This first visit helped to build
8 friendships and relationships that have lasted through the years and led to cross-cultural exchange
9 visits between the citizens of Coventry, England and Coventry, Rhode Island, with the exchanges
10 taking place in the United States in 1975 and the United Kingdom in 1976; and

11 WHEREAS, In the spirit of the initial Sister-City relationship between Coventry, Rhode
12 Island and Coventry, England, other such relationships were established including the Coventry,
13 Rhode Island and Vannes, France, Sister-City relationship that was created in 1984. This
14 relationship was established through the French cultural organization Amité et Rencontres entre
15 les Peuples; and

16 WHEREAS, The first visitors from Vannes, France, arrived in Coventry, Rhode Island,
17 in 1991 and in 1992 a group of Americans, including folks from Coventry, Rhode Island, visited
18 Vannes, France. It is hoped that these kinds of exchanges between Coventry and Vannes can soon
19 be renewed; and

1 WHEREAS, Sister-City relationships are created in the hope that greater international
2 understanding can be forged through cultural exchanges, outreach, and the fostering of new
3 friendships; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
5 Providence Plantations hereby honors the 30th Anniversary of International Understanding
6 between the Sister Cities of Coventry, Rhode Island, and Vannes, France; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Norma Smith.

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