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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

**EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GEORGE W.
TENNIAN**

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, Ruggerio, and Ciccone

Date Introduced: January 14, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, George W. Tennian of Melbourne, Florida passed away on December 31,
2 2013 at William Childs Hospice House in Palm Bay, Florida after fighting a courageous battle,
3 with strength and dignity, against pancreatic cancer; and
4 WHEREAS, George W. Tennian was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the son of the
5 late George and Mary (Kennedy) Tennian. George lived until his retirement in 2000, in
6 Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He worked as a meatcutter for Almacs Supermarkets in Rhode
7 Island until 1973, when he became a Business Representative for the Meatcutters and Food Store
8 Workers Union, which later became the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 328,
9 based in Providence and serving Rhode Island, eastern Connecticut and southeastern
10 Massachusetts. George was subsequently elected Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Secretary
11 Treasurer and, in 1994, was elected President, a position he held until his retirement; and
12 WHEREAS, In 1995, George established the Local 328 Golf Tournament to benefit the
13 Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Since its inception, the tournament has raised over one
14 million dollars for the charity. George was also a member of the Board of Directors of the
15 National Safety Council, a Trustee in the UFCW and Employers Interstate, Health and Welfare
16 Fund, a Trustee of the UFCW and Employers New England Pension Fund, and a Trustee of the
17 UFCW International Union Industry Pension Fund. He was First Vice-President of the
18 Providence Central Federated Labor Council, a member of the Executive Board and Executive
19 Committee of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO, a Vice-President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and a

1 Vice-President of the New England Council of the United Food and Commercial Workers. He
2 also served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Southeastern New England and was
3 also a member of the Providence Civic Center Authority; and

4 WHEREAS, George Tennian is survived by his wife Phyllis (Cotton) Tennian, daughters
5 Robin Provonsil and her husband Cliff, and Helene Holdgate and her husband Russ, grandson
6 Matthew Provonsil, granddaughters Holly and Erin Holdgate, and sister Patricia Mills and her
7 husband Arthur; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
9 hereby expresses its deepest condolences to the Tennian family on the passing of George
10 Tennian; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Phyllis (Cotton) Tennian, Robin Provonsil, and
13 Helene Holdgate.

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