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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF JAY S. GOODMAN, PH.D., J.D.

Introduced By: Senators Goldin, Paiva Weed, Algieri, Morgan, and Gallo

Date Introduced: May 13, 2015

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Professor Jay Goodman was born in 1940, in St Louis Missouri, to Harold
2 and Minnie Goodman. He graduated from University City High School in 1957, and later from
3 Beloit College. Upon graduation, he earned a Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fellowship and
4 attended Stanford University, where he attained a Master's degree in political science. Mr.
5 Goodman received his Ph.D. from Brown University; and

6 WHEREAS, Professor Goodman was an esteemed teacher for fifty years at Wheaton
7 College and became the youngest tenured professor in the school's history. He was nationally
8 known for his exhaustive knowledge of American politics and authored nine monographs and
9 books on politics. He taught over 10,000 students during his professorial career, but what truly
10 made him a beloved figure was the mentoring he offered to countless students; and

11 WHEREAS, Professor Goodman was also very active in other endeavors including
12 serving as a Democratic political strategist, as a volunteer leader for numerous civic service
13 causes, and as an accomplished attorney. Professor Goodman actively served on numerous
14 political campaigns including Robert F. Kennedy's 1968 Presidential campaign, Ed Muskie's
15 1972 Presidential campaign, and the Rhode Island campaigns of Governor Frank Licht, Governor
16 J. Joseph Garrahy, Providence Mayor Joseph Paolino and United States Senator Sheldon
17 Whitehouse; and

18 WHEREAS, Professor Goodman, in a civil service capacity, served as the volunteer head
19 of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, where he distinguished himself with his
20 exemplary handling of affairs during the infamous blizzard of 1978. He also served as Chairman

1 of the Providence Civic Center Authority, and as a member of the Capital Center Commission,
2 where he helped to oversee the building of Providence Place Mall and Waterplace Park; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1975, Professor Goodman, while serving as a pre-law advisor, was
4 convinced by his students to attend law school. He did so, enrolling in the evening program at
5 Suffolk Law School and receiving his J.D. in 1978. He was admitted to the Rhode Island and
6 Massachusetts Bar Associations and served as a federal clerk to the Honorable Francis J. Boyle,
7 Chief Judge of the United States District Court; and

8 WHEREAS, Professor Goodman's enduring legacy, however, is not only found in the
9 enormity of his professional accomplishments as a brilliant scholar and a devoted public servant,
10 but also as the beloved husband of Gail Berson, a devoted father, stepfather, grandfather, and
11 brother, and a cherished, caring and loyal friend to countless people. He will be sorely missed by
12 all who knew him and loved him so much; and

13 WHEREAS, Professor Goodman leaves behind his wife Gail, his son Bob Goodman and
14 his wife, Naama Goldstein, his stepdaughter Jessica Weaver, his grandson Amishai Goodman-
15 Goldstein, and his siblings Fay Cohen and her husband, Michael, and Suzanne Liss and her
16 husband, Michael; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
18 hereby expresses its condolences to the Goodman Family on the passing of Jay S. Goodman,
19 Ph.D., J.D.; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Gail Berson.

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