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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF VERNON L. GORTON, JR.

Introduced By: Senators Ottiano, DiPalma, Paiva Weed, Felag, and Metts

Date Introduced: May 21, 2015

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Vernon L. Gorton, Jr., passed away on Sunday, May 17, 2015. He was the
2 beloved husband of Beverly Gorton for 24 years; and

3 WHEREAS, Vernon Gorton was born on November 15, 1955, in Fall River,
4 Massachusetts, the son of Anna E. Gorton and the late Vernon L. Gorton, Sr. He graduated from
5 Portsmouth High School in 1973, Providence College in 1977, and Western New England School
6 of Law with honors in 1981; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Gorton practiced law for 34 years in Portsmouth. He was highly
8 respected for his work in the legal and political activities of his community and was a generous
9 soul always willing to provide legal representation to those who couldn't otherwise afford his
10 services; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Gorton was a longtime member and past President of the Portsmouth
12 Democratic Town Committee. He also served, with honor, integrity and diligence as the Town
13 Solicitor for Portsmouth and Middletown, and on the Board of the Portsmouth Public Library;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Gorton was also very active in various community activities. He
16 coached girls' softball and was an assistant coach for boys' Little League. He was a lifetime
17 member of the Portuguese American Citizens Club and the Seaconnet Sportsman's Club. He also
18 was a past Associate Member of the Democratic State Committee, a member of the Rhode Island
19 Bar Association, and the Newport Bar Association; and

20 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife Beverly, and his mother Anna, Mr. Gorton leaves

1 behind his two children, Samuel Gorton and Maggie Gorton, and his three sisters, Jo-Anne
2 Gorton, Nancy Harrington, and Patricia Khokasian. He is also survived by numerous nieces and
3 nephews; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby expresses its condolences to the Gorton Family on the passing of Vernon L. Gorton, Jr.;

6 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 Mrs. Beverly Gorton and Family.

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