

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING THOMAS L. PAPA FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, Ruggerio, Goodwin, McCaffrey, and Lynch Prata

Date Introduced: March 30, 2017

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, On August 28, 2014, Senate President M. Teresa Paiva Weed named  
2 Thomas L. Papa as Chief of Staff to the Rhode Island Senate. Since that day, the Ocean State has  
3 been the beneficiary of the keen intellect, extreme patience, and abiding dedication to excellence  
4 that Thomas "Tom" Papa brought to that position each and every day of his State House service;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Laying the foundation to take on his future career challenges, Tom earned  
7 his Associate's degree in Applied Science/Fire Science from the Community College of Rhode  
8 Island and his Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from Roger Williams University; and

9           WHEREAS, Tom's responsibilities as Chief of Staff for the Senate have included  
10 managing the Senate's staff along with the coordination of myriad details and multifarious  
11 scheduling of meetings and events, an often Herculean task, requiring long hours and immense  
12 aptitude and ability; and

13           WHEREAS, Held in the highest esteem by the legislature and staff, Tom's calm  
14 demeanor and previous training in putting out fires has proven to be an invaluable asset during  
15 many a stressful situation and to the overall proficiency of the entire Senate legislative process;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, Previous to his years with the Senate, Tom was Associate Director of the  
18 government relations firm F/S Capitol Consulting, LLC, had served as the legislative agent for  
19 the Rhode Island State Association of Fire Fighters, and for 25 years, was a member of the  
20 Woonsocket Fire Department, where he received numerous Meritorious Service Awards and

1 retired in 2009 at the rank of Captain; and

2 WHEREAS, In addition to his work at the State House, Tom has dedicated many hours to  
3 his community serving as President of the Museum of Work & Culture's preservation board and  
4 as a member of the United Way of Rhode Island Community Advisory Committee; and

5 WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Tom Papa enjoys fine cigars and is a diehard Patriots  
6 fan, and while he generally maintains a professional and politically correct appearance, his shirt  
7 describing Commissioner Goodell is definitely attire that former Senate President Paiva Weed  
8 would surely prefer he not ever wear in public; and

9 WHEREAS, Tom Papa's tireless devotion to the task at hand has earned him the  
10 unqualified admiration and respect of the entire Senate for enhancing the overall proficiency of  
11 the legislative process, and he will most assuredly be missed at the State House; now, therefore be  
12 it

13 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
14 hereby recognizes and sincerely thanks Thomas L. Papa for the countless hours and all too  
15 frequent late evenings he has worked over the course of his career in service to the Rhode Island  
16 Senate and the people of this state. We moreover wish Tom good health, much happiness, and  
17 success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
19 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Thomas L. Papa.

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