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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF WALTER KETTELLE, JR., AND
MEMORIALIZING THE DEDICATION OF AN ELKS LODGE HALL IN HIS HONOR

Introduced By: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Date Introduced: May 11, 2017

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Walter "Dewey" Kettelle, Jr., a man who served our nation and state for
2 many decades with honor, integrity and devotion, passed away on February 14, 2017. He was the
3 loving husband of Judith A. Kettelle for fifty-three years; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Kettelle was born in South Kingstown, a son of the late Walter D. and
5 Bertha Kettelle. He was a United States Army veteran of the Korean Conflict and served our
6 nation with distinction and dedication; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Kettelle was a hard-working man and innovative leader who served as
8 the Director of Support Services for the North Kingstown School Department for 33 years; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Kettelle was a tireless supporter of charitable community organizations
10 within the South Kingstown community. He was a member of the South Kingstown Lodge of
11 Elks for 49 years, and served the Elks faithfully in a variety of positions and capacities. He served
12 as the Exalted Ruler of South Kingstown Lodge #1899, and was a Past President of the Rhode
13 Island State Elks Association. He also served as the Rhode Island State Director for the Elks
14 Hoop Shot Program, and as the New England Regional Director of the Elks Hoop Shot Program.
15 He was the highest ranking Elk from the State of Rhode Island; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Kettelle served as a member and Secretary of the North Kingstown
17 FOP 33 for many years. He received numerous awards and honors in recognition of his service to
18 myriad community organizations, including being named State Elk of the Year by the Rhode
19 Island State Elks Association, being honored with the 2010 Elks National Foundation Permanent

1 Benefactor Award, being elected to serve as a Grand Lodge Inner Guard, and being appointed
2 special representative to several lodges in Rhode Island and attending over 30 national
3 conventions. He was also a recipient of the Presidential Award for Volunteering, and was a
4 faithful parishioner of St. Paul's Episcopal Church; and

5 WHEREAS, On June 4, 2017, many people who knew and loved Mr. Kettelle will gather
6 in Wakefield, Rhode Island, at Elks Lodge #1899, for a special Hall Dedication in honor and
7 memory of Mr. Kettelle's life and in gratitude for his decades of service to the Rhode Island Elks
8 and the South Kingstown community; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Judith, Mr. Kettelle also leaves behind his daughters,
10 Katherine Johnson and her husband, Mark, and Deborah Gardner and her husband, George. He is
11 also survived by his siblings, Doreen Bailey, Barbara Huling, Thomas Kettelle, and Gene
12 Kettelle. He also leaves behind his five grandchildren, Emily, Grant and Sarah Gardner, Rachel
13 and Timothy Johnson, and two great-grandsons, Mason and Tyler; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
15 hereby expresses its condolences on the passing of Walter Kettelle, Jr., and memorializes the
16 dedication of an Elks Lodge Hall in his honor; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
18 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Judith A. Kettelle and Family.

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