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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE IRENE P.
SMITH

Introduced By: Senators P Fogarty, Nesselbush, Sosnowski, Crowley, and Quezada

Date Introduced: January 23, 2018

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Irene "Tisha" P. Smith passed away on January 9, 2018 at
2 the Overlook Nursing Center in Pascoag. She was a lifelong resident of Burrillville and was the
3 daughter of the late James and Irene Smith. She graduated from Our Lady of Good Help School
4 in Mapleville, Rhode Island, St. Clair High School in Woonsocket, and received an A.B. degree
5 from Regis College, an M.A. degree from Columbia University, and a Professional Diploma in
6 Higher Education from the University of Connecticut. She also belonged to the Delta Pi Epsilon
7 and Kappa Delta Pi education honor societies; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Smith had a highly successful, distinguished and diverse professional
9 career. She was an Information Specialist with the Rhode Island Department of Education, taught
10 at Burrillville High School, and was an Assistant Professor of Business and Assistant Director of
11 Admissions at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, Massachusetts. She also served
12 as an Executive Staff Assistant to former Governor Frank Licht; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition, Ms. Smith served as a Rhode Island State Senator in the Rhode
14 Island General Assembly. She was elected in 1976 to serve the citizens of Burrillville and did so
15 with honesty, passion and integrity for six years, rising to the position Deputy Majority Leader.
16 She was also the former Vice Chairman of the Governor's Commission on Women, and was the
17 State Legislative Chairman for the Business and Professional Women's Club of Rhode Island.
18 Additionally, she was a member of the Board of Administration and Town Buildings in
19 Burrillville and was a member of the Burrillville Democratic Committee and Sewer Commission;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Ms. Smith was an active communicant of St. Patrick Church. In her free
3 time she enjoyed golfing and spending time in Florida and on cruises with her friends. She is
4 survived by many close friends; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
6 hereby expresses condolences on the passing of the Honorable Irene P. Smith 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 the Overlook Nursing Center.

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