

2020 -- H 7063

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THOMAS A. DRENNAN, JR.

Introduced By: Representatives Tanzi, Fogarty, McEntee, Craven, and Mattiello

Date Introduced: January 09, 2020

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Thomas A. Drennan, Jr., of Wakefield passed away on January 5, 2020. He
2 was the devoted husband of Ann E. "Nancy" (Curran) Drennan. Mr. Drennan was born in
3 Hartford, Connecticut, the son of the late Thomas Drennan, Sr., and Dorothy Drennan-Gray; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Drennan had a prestigious career as a golf coach for fifty years at the
5 High School, Junior College and NCAA levels. Coach Drennan is most noted for the spectacular
6 job he did as the Head Golf Coach at the University of Rhode Island for twenty-two years. Under
7 his direction, the University of Rhode Island Rams Golf Team qualified for NCAA Regional Play
8 in sixteen straight seasons from 1992 to 2007, and made history in 2004 when they finished
9 eighth at the Regionals and became the first golf program from the Northeast to reach the NCAA
10 Championship since the current postseason format was adopted in 1988; and

11 WHEREAS, Coach Drennan also led the Rams to five Atlantic Ten Championships, ten
12 New England Intercollegiate Championships and seven New England Division One Titles. Three
13 of his golfers earned individual entries into the NCAA Regionals; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Drennan received numerous awards and honors throughout his
15 distinguished coaching career. He was named the New England Coach of the Year nine times,
16 and the Atlantic Ten Coach of the Year three times. Coach Drennan was inducted into the Golf
17 Coaches Association of America Hall of Fame in 2008, the Rhode Island Golf Association Hall
18 of Fame in 2015, and the University of Rhode Island Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Drennan began his coaching tenure at URI in 1973, when he served as a
20 Men's Basketball Assistant Coach from 1973 to 1978 under Head Coach Jack Kraft. He also

1 served as the Director of Athletics and Head Basketball Coach at Roger Williams University from
2 1966 to 1974; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Ann, Mr. Drennan is survived by his children,
4 Kathleen Garlick and her husband, Raymond, Christine Drennan Skerry, Elizabeth Drennan, and
5 Meredith Drennan Gibbons and her husband, Toby. He also leaves behind his grandchildren,
6 Michaela, Bridget, Neive and Jack Skerry, Ceileidh and Conor Just, JT, Grace, Brendan and
7 Andrew Gibbons. Mr. Drennan also leaves behind his brother Robert Drennan; now, therefore be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
10 Providence Plantations hereby expresses its condolences on the passing of Thomas A. Drennan,
11 Jr., and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Ann Drennan and Family, and President
14 David M. Dooley, University of Rhode Island.

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