

2020 -- H 8154

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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

**HONORING REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND H. JOHNSTON, JR., FOR HIS SERVICE TO
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Casimiro, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, It has been said that there are six essential qualities a person must possess in
2 order to be successful in life. They are sincerity, personal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom
3 and charity, and so it is not hard to understand why Ray Johnston has had such a long and
4 dedicated career serving the citizens of Rhode Island; and

5 WHEREAS, Ray Johnston graduated from Saint Raphael Academy in Pawtucket and
6 attended Roger Williams University. He began his public service with the Pawtucket Police
7 Department, ultimately retiring as a detective. His first involvement with politics was as a
8 member of Pawtucket's Democratic City Committee; and

9 WHEREAS, In November of 2010, the people of the City of Pawtucket elected
10 Representative Johnston to the Rhode Island General Assembly as the State Representative for
11 District 61. During his decade at the State House, he has served in myriad capacities, most
12 recently as a Deputy Majority Leader, First Vice Chairman of the House Committee on
13 Corporations and the House Committee on Oversight, and as a member of the House Committee
14 on Environment and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Municipal Government; and

15 WHEREAS, During his tenure, Representative Johnston has sponsored a panoply of
16 essential bills including, legislation to streamline the procedure for the merger approval of
17 nonprofit hospitals, legislation requiring every public and private school in Rhode Island to post
18 clear and visible signs that provide the state's child abuse hotline number for students, legislation
19 expanding the number of pharmacists eligible to engage in collaborative pharmacy practice with

1 physicians, and legislation to address the fines imposed on school bus drivers who use wireless
2 devices on school buses, to name just a few of his most recent efforts; and

3 WHEREAS, Always a diligent advocate for his constituency, Representative Johnston
4 worked with the Department of Transportation to prioritize a \$5 million project to repair and
5 resurface a portion of Newport Avenue in Pawtucket, and, over the past two years, secured an
6 additional \$4.4 million in educational state funding for Pawtucket public schools and \$4.2 million
7 to repair the schools; and

8 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that we must bid farewell to our good friend and colleague
9 Representative Johnston. He will most assuredly be missed; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
11 honors Representative Raymond Johnston for his service to the people of Pawtucket and the State
12 of Rhode Island. We thank him for a job well done, and extend our sincere wishes for his
13 continued health, happiness, and success; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Raymond H. Johnston, Jr.

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