

2020 -- H 8179

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE
ALBERT G. BRIEN

Introduced By: Representatives Morin, Shekarchi, Kennedy, Lima, and Phillips

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Albert
2 G. Brien, a well-respected and lifelong resident of the City of Woonsocket, beloved father of our
3 friend and former colleague the Honorable Jon Brien and his wife, Nicole, Darlene Brien, and
4 Jennifer Brien, and the very proud grandfather of Juliana and Gabriella Brien, Kristen Ricciardelli
5 and Airman 1st Class Chad Ricciardelli; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in Woonsocket, Mr. Brien was the son of the late Lodie and Obeline
7 Brien, the brother of Obeline Plante, and the uncle of Katherine Plante, Matthew Plante, and John
8 Plante. He was a graduate of Mount Saint Charles Academy and attended Providence College,
9 earning his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Upon graduation from Officer
10 Candidate School, he earned the rank of Second Lieutenant and served our country with honor in
11 the United States Army; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1974, the Honorable Albert Brien was elected to serve in the Rhode
13 Island House of Representatives from District 62. He was re-elected to five additional terms and
14 served as the Chairman of the Corporations Committee. Subsequent to his years at the State
15 House, he was named Director of Finance and Administration for the City of Woonsocket, and
16 later served as the Director of Human Services. In 2007, he was named Director of Human
17 Services and Administrative Aide, and in 2011, was elected to the Woonsocket City Council,
18 where he served as Council President until 2016; and

19 WHEREAS, With decades of service to the people of Woonsocket and “a legendary

1 memory and a personal library of historical documents, legislation, and maps,” Mr. Brien had
2 accumulated a wealth of knowledge about his beloved city and was happy to share his
3 knowledge, helping all who asked; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Brien had a deep and abiding love for animals and would
5 frequently feed stray animals, including birds, squirrels, groundhogs, and even skunks. He was
6 also known to often transport stray animals to the Northern Rhode Island Animal Hospital to be
7 spayed or neutered at his own expense; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Brien’s extended family included his beloved companions, Princess,
9 Kelly, and most recently, a German Shepherd aptly named “The Big Guy” who he would often
10 take for rides around town in his vintage Mercury Colony Park beach wagon; and

11 WHEREAS, Albert Brien left an indelible legacy in the City of Woonsocket and he will
12 be dearly missed by all who loved him and by the many people he helped throughout the years;
13 now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, This House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends
15 its deepest condolences to the Brien Family on the passing of Albert G. Brien; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Jon Brien, Darlene Brien, and
18 Jennifer Brien.

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