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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF BARRY M. SULLIVAN

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, Goodwin, Felag, Lombardi, and Ruggerio

Date Introduced: January 30, 2020

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Barry M. Sullivan passed away on December 22, 2019, after a courageous
2 fight against cancer. He was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, the son of the late James and
3 Claire Sullivan, and had resided in Cranston; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan, a graduate of Somerset High School and Providence College,
5 was one of the greatest athletes this region has ever produced. In high school he was a three-sport
6 star who excelled in baseball, football, and basketball. Baseball was the sport where he made his
7 mark, especially at Providence College where he compiled a record of achievement on the
8 baseball diamond matched by few in the history of Providence College Baseball; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan was a four-year baseball player at Providence College. He was
10 an outstanding defender patrolling center field and was nearly impossible to strike out at the plate,
11 striking out only twelve times in four years. In his stellar Junior Season, he compiled a
12 phenomenal batting average of .429, was the New England College batting champion, and was
13 named a third-team All-American. In recognition of his sterling baseball career, he was inducted
14 into the Providence College Hall of Fame; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan also played for three seasons in the prestigious Cape Cod
16 League, where he tied for the league lead in runs batted in during the 1975 season. He signed as a
17 free agent with the Chicago Cubs in 1977, but an arm injury shortly thereafter ended his baseball
18 career; and

19 WHEREAS, After his playing days, Mr. Sullivan served as an Assistant Coach at Brown
20 University and Harvard, and was the Head Coach for one year at Bristol Community College. He

1 also served as an Assistant Coach in the Cape Cod League and famously served as the batting
2 practice pitcher for Hall of Fame Red Sox Star Carl Yastrzemski; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan was a Certified Appraiser and Real Estate Broker for many
4 years. He owned a successful real estate appraisal business and served the City of Providence
5 with integrity as its Director of Real Estate; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan leaves behind his wife, Rachele Sullivan. He also leaves
7 behind his children Justin Sullivan and Jessica Sullivan. He is also survived by his sister, Betsi
8 Oliviera and her husband, David, his brother Brian Sullivan and his wife, Maureen, nephews
9 Brady and Ben Oliviera, and niece Elizabeth Camara. He was the brother of the late Brad
10 Sullivan; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Sullivan was a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle and friend. He
12 always went the extra mile to help others and showed appreciation to the hard-working men and
13 women he encountered in life. Examples are many and include helping a homeless man to find
14 shelter in Providence and paying for him to live in a halfway house, to buying donuts for the
15 nurses who were taking care of him when he was enduring surgeries for his cancer. He was a
16 shining light who will be sorely missed by all of his loved ones and many friends; now, therefore
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
19 hereby expresses its deepest condolences to the Sullivan Family on the passing of Barry M.
20 Sullivan; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Rachele Sullivan and Family.

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