

2020 -- S 2942

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

THANKING SENATOR ELIZABETH A. CROWLEY FOR HER TWELVE YEARS OF
DISTINGUISHED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS A MEMBER OF THE RHODE
ISLAND SENATE

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Metts, and Conley

Date Introduced: December 18, 2020

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Senator Elizabeth A. Crowley was born in 1951, and is the mother of two
2 children, Christine M. DeFaria and Melissa Crowley. She is a 1970 graduate of Central Falls
3 High School and a 1993 graduate of the Municipal Clerk Institute at Salve Regina University; and

4 WHEREAS, For forty years, Senator Crowley served with distinction and integrity as a
5 clerk for the Town of Central Falls. She also served as the President of the New England
6 Association of City & Town Clerks; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Crowley began her meritorious legislative career when she was
8 elected to the Rhode Island Senate in 2008, representing the citizens of District 16. She currently
9 serves as the Vice Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Housing & Municipal Government,
10 as Co-Chairwoman of the Permanent Commission on Childcare, and as a Member of the Senate
11 Committee on Health & Human Services, Special Legislation & Veterans' Affairs, and as a
12 Member of the Permanent Committee on the State Lottery; and

13 WHEREAS, Thanks to her tireless work ethic and abiding integrity, Senator Crowley
14 was chosen by her Senate colleagues to serve the body as the Deputy President Pro Tempore.
15 Throughout her distinguished public service career, Senator Crowley has been a leading voice on
16 a host of critical issues including economic development, urban affairs, and affordable housing
17 and childcare. She is retiring as the head of the Pawtucket delegation to the Rhode Island Senate;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Senator Crowley played an instrumental role in helping Central Falls to

1 emerge from bankruptcy stronger and more vibrant. She has championed increased state aid for
2 both Central Falls and the other distressed and underprivileged communities throughout our State.
3 Senator Crowley is a fierce advocate for her district and underserved people throughout the State
4 and she fought tirelessly to restore a portion of Central Falls retirees' pensions, which had been
5 cut during the bankruptcy; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Crowley has always been an outspoken defender of the voiceless.
7 She sponsored laws to improve housing and building standards, including a requirement that
8 elderly housing must have emergency generators in the event of utility outages. She also authored
9 laws to increase access to Family Courts by lowering prohibitive fees, authored a new law to
10 increase access to public transportation by requiring RIPTA to have an open-door service to all
11 passengers to and from Rhode Island within a five mile radius of the border. She also fought to
12 restore no-fare bus passes to low-income seniors and disabled residents, to increase funding for,
13 and access to, quality childcare, and was a strong advocate for affordable housing development
14 that helped to transform neighborhoods in her district; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator Crowley has received numerous honors in recognition of her
16 distinguished public service career including the Channel One Volunteer Award, the Historic
17 Central Falls Award, the Certificate of Recognition from the Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun
18 Violence, the Ernie Marot Humanitarian Award from the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen, the Housing
19 Network Award, and the Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless "Jack Reed Advocacy Award".
20 She also serves as a Eucharistic Minister at the Holy Spirit Church in Central Falls; now,
21 therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby thanks Senator
23 Elizabeth Crowley for her twelve years of distinguished service in the Rhode Island Senate; and
24 be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
26 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Elizabeth A. Crowley.

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