

2021 -- H 6292

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SIMONE PATRICIA
JOYAUX, ACFRE

Introduced By: Representatives Ruggiero, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Ajello, Carson,
Kislak, Cortvriend, Potter, Baginski, and Alzate

Date Introduced: May 04, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Simone P.
2 Joyaux, the beloved wife of Thomas Ahern, and an international fundraiser extraordinaire and
3 social justice activist; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Michigan, Ms. Joyaux was the daughter of the late Jane Peckham
5 Joyaux and Georges Jules Joyaux, and the sister of Alain, Nicole, Philippe, Paul, and Andree. She
6 was greatly influenced by her father who was French and had immigrated to the United States as
7 an adult after World War II. She and her husband maintained a home in France. At the age of
8 nine, she had decided to teach French and English in middle school and in pursuit of her goal,
9 received a Master of Arts degree in 20th century French and American Comparative Literature
10 from Michigan State University; and

11 WHEREAS, Changing her teaching focus, Ms. Joyaux continued her education and
12 received additional qualifications including the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE)
13 credential from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) in 1984, the Advanced
14 Certified Fund Raising Executive (ACFRE) in 1994, an International Advanced Diploma in
15 Fundraising (IADF) in 2013, and a Certificate in Philanthropic Psychology; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Joyaux began her career in the nonprofit sector in 1975, serving as the
17 Executive Director of an arts center and arts council in Lansing, Michigan. From 1981 to 1988,
18 she was chief development officer for Trinity Repertory Company in Rhode Island, and in 1988,
19 launched her fulltime consultancy, Joyaux Associates. In addition, she founded two organizations

1 as a volunteer, from 1999 through 2001, she was chair of the board of CFRE International, and in
2 2000, founded the Women's Fund of Rhode Island, a social justice organization; and

3 WHEREAS, Known around the world for her fundraising and philanthropic endeavors,
4 and social justice advocacy, Ms. Joyaux had chaired the advisory board of the Centre for
5 Sustainable Philanthropy at Plymouth University, was honored in 2019 as an AFP Distinguished
6 Fellow, and had authored three books and contributed to several others that are considered to be
7 timeless guides in the field; and

8 WHEREAS, Simone Joyaux was a mentor, teacher, volunteer, leader, and friend, whose
9 gifts of time, wisdom, and expertise had a positive influence and changed the nonprofit sector and
10 the lives of generations of people, and she will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
12 extends its deepest sympathies on the loss Simone P. Joyaux; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Thomas Ahern and Family.

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