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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE TRAGIC PASSING OF MATTHEW M.
DENNISON

Introduced By: Representatives Serpa, Noret, P Morgan, Blazejewski, Filippi, Kennedy,
Fogarty, Ackerman, Fellela, and Cortvriend

Date Introduced: March 17, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, On February 12th, 2022, Matthew M. Dennison, age seventeen of West
2 Warwick, was injured by the senseless act of a drunk driver. After a month courageously battling
3 his injuries, Matthew passed away on March 10, 2022. He was born in Woonsocket, the son of
4 Mark and Brenda Dennison, and the loving brother of Kaitlyn Dennison; and

5 WHEREAS, Matthew was an active youngster who loved spending time with his family
6 at his favorite place, Lake Memphremagog in Newport, Vermont, and playing sports year round,
7 be it skiing, water sports with his cousins, or playing pond hockey. He also never missed a Boston
8 Bruins hockey game and would celebrate every Bruins goal with a special handshake; and

9 WHEREAS, Matthew had a passion for the game of ice hockey. He learned to skate at
10 the age of four and immediately took up the game. His love of the game was complete and for
11 him, there was never an off-season. He served as the Senior Captain of the West Warwick-
12 Exeter-West Greenwich Co-Op Team and his sterling leadership and outstanding play helped lead
13 them to a State Championship in 2020. Most recently, an ice hockey game between East
14 Greenwich and Hendricken, at Schneider arena, began with a moment of silence in honor of
15 Matthew; and

16 WHEREAS, Matthew was a gifted leader and a special person both on and off the ice. He
17 surrounded himself with great friends, whom he treasured, and he considered them his brothers.
18 He was always available to help a loved one, a friend, a neighbor or anyone in need of a helping
19 hand; and

1 WHEREAS, Matthew Dennison was simply a fun person to be around. He made people
2 laugh with his quick wit and sarcastic sense of humor, and he loved entertaining others with fun
3 pranks; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to his parents, Mark and Brenda, and his sister, Kaitlyn,
5 Matthew leaves behind his paternal grandfather, Harry Dennison and his wife, Irene, paternal
6 grandmother, Muriel Dennison, and his maternal grandfather, Michael Pappagallo, Jr. He also
7 leaves behind several aunts, uncles and cousins, and was predeceased by his grandmother
8 Rosemary Pappagallo; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
10 expresses its deepest condolences to the Dennison Family on the passing of Matthew Dennison;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mark and Brenda Dennison and Family.

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