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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF FATHER RAYMOND
TETREAULT

Introduced By: Senator Samuel W. Bell

Date Introduced: January 17, 2023

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Father
2 Raymond Tetreault, a revered and beloved priest with the Catholic Diocese of Providence, who
3 devotedly served the people of Olneyville and the City of Providence for more than fifty years;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Father Tetreault grew up in the Lippitt Hill neighborhood of Providence, a
6 son of the late Conrad and Elizabeth Carroll Tetreault, and brother of Joseph Tetreault and his
7 wife, Maria, and the late Irene Meenagh, Conrad Tetreault, and Leon Tetreault. He was the
8 beloved uncle of many nieces, nephews, and ten great-grand nieces and nephews; and

9 WHEREAS, Upon graduation from the Holy Name School, Father Tetreault attended
10 LaSalle Academy, Our Lady of Providence Seminary, and was ordained in 1960 at the University
11 of Louvain in Belgium; and

12 WHEREAS, After his ordination, Father Tetreault taught English and Algebra at the high
13 school seminary, became superior and Novice Master of the "Brothers of Our Lady of
14 Providence," whose mission was to work with the poor, and was Pastor at St. Teresa of Avila for
15 many years. He ultimately went to St. Michael the Archangel Parish after St. Teresa's sadly
16 closed; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the years, Father Tetreault would visit neighborhood homes, saying
18 Mass for Latino immigrants new to the city and the poor and under-served. He celebrated the first
19 Spanish Mass in the State and his devotion to the Latino community and his understanding of

1 their needs led to his commitment for their struggle for justice. He helped good men to become
2 great leaders and helped them envision, embrace, and work for decent and productive lives for all.
3 He preached the principles of non-violence, and the rewards of embracing justice and peace as the
4 foundation for a good and worthy life; and

5 WHEREAS, Father Tetreault was “a man of simple needs but of great and profound
6 ideas.” He leaves his loving family and legions of close friends, brother priests, and members of
7 Rhode Island’s Latino and immigrant communities, whose lives he enriched and improved and
8 who will all deeply mourn his passing; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby expresses deepest
10 sympathy on the passing of Father Raymond Tetreault. He will forever be remembered as a
11 devout spiritual leader who spent his life bettering the lives and future for so many Rhode
12 Islanders; 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 Joseph Tetreault and Family.

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