

2019 -- H 5240

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH A.
KEOUGH**

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, Shekarchi, Johnston, Craven, and Filippi

Date Introduced: January 30, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness and regret that this House of Representatives has
2 learned of the passing of the Honorable Joseph A. Keough, a highly-respected former Rhode
3 Island Superior Court Magistrate Judge, and a devoted family man. He was the loving husband of
4 Joan Keough, beloved father of Joseph A. Keough, Jr., and his wife, Kimberly, the Honorable
5 Maureen B. Keough, Kathleen M. Schram and her husband, Joseph and Colleen M. Keough, and
6 the very proud "Papa" of Colin and Kyle Keough, and Tess and Finn Schram; and

7 WHEREAS, Raised in Pawtucket, Judge Keough was the brother of Francis Keough,
8 Dennis Keough, Kathleen Keough, and the late Helen McGinn, and is also survived by many
9 beloved nieces, nephews and cousins. An Eagle Scout and graduate of St. Raphael's Academy, he
10 continued his education earning his Bachelor's degree from Providence College, and his law
11 degree from Suffolk University Law School; and

12 WHEREAS, A "self-made man who earned his successes through hard work, tenacity
13 and education" Judge Keough was appointed Associate Judge of the Pawtucket Municipal Court
14 in 1973, a position he held until 1982. In addition, in 1975, he became a partner in the law firm of
15 Keough, Parker & Gearon. In 1994, he was named Chief Judge of the Pawtucket Municipal
16 Court, a position he held until 1997, when he was appointed as a Rhode Island Superior Court
17 Magistrate Judge, retiring in 2008; and

18 WHEREAS, Throughout his remarkable life, Judge Keough held a strong commitment to
19 both his community and politics. He served as Chairman of the Pawtucket Board of Canvassers

1 from 1966 to 1973, as Executive Director of the Rhode Island Democratic State Committee from
2 1969 to 1973, and was Chairman of the Pawtucket Juvenile Hearing Board from 1994 to 1997;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In addition, Judge Keough had been a long-time Board Member and Past
5 President of the Pawtucket Country Club, and upon his retirement from the bench, had been
6 actively involved with the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen serving as Vice President and as a member of
7 the Board of Directors for a number of years. He had also served in myriad leadership positions
8 for numerous business and community organizations; and

9 WHEREAS, Honored for his service and accomplishments, Judge Keough was inducted
10 into the Pawtucket Hall of Fame in 2018, and had been the recipient of the John P. Burke Caddy
11 Scholarship and subsequently served as a member of the Board that awarded the Burke
12 scholarships; and

13 WHEREAS, Judge Keough possessed a brilliant mind, and a fair and magnanimous
14 spirit. He had the love of his family and friends, and the admiration of his peers. A proud
15 Irishman, the most fitting tribute to Joe Keough is a celebration of his glorious life, a life where
16 each and every day was lived fully and joyfully embraced; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
18 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to his wife, Joan, and the entire
19 Keough family on the passing of the Honorable Joseph A. Keough. He will forever be
20 remembered as a highly respected and admired judge who presided with fairness and justice, and
21 served the people of the State of Rhode Island with integrity and excellence; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
23 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Joan Keough and Family.

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