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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF KATHERINE E. YOUNG

Introduced By: Representatives Rea, Costantino, Newberry, Place, Fellela, J. Brien,
Shallcross Smith, Nardone, Chippendale, and Serpa

Date Introduced: January 10, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of
2 Katherine E. Young, the beloved wife of Richard Young for fourteen years. She was born in
3 Providence, the daughter of Stephen and Cheryl Olszewski, and was the granddaughter of Dora
4 and the late Daniel Mulcahey, and the late Theodore and Olga Olszewski; and

5 WHEREAS, Raised in Coventry, Katherine Young had a happy childhood, where she
6 developed an early love and appreciation for music and the game of soccer, which she played
7 recreationally. She graduated from Coventry High School and furthered her education at Gordon
8 College, earning a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education. She later attained a Master's
9 degree in Education from the College of St. Rose in Albany, New York; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Young worked a variety of jobs and positions before she settled in
11 Rhode Island. A deeply caring and compassionate person, she volunteered with the Chikumbuso
12 organization and continued her charitable endeavors in support of Zambia by sponsoring multiple
13 young Zambian people as they navigated life and pursued educational endeavors; and

14 WHEREAS, For the past ten years, Katherine Young has been a beloved teacher at
15 Smithfield High School, where she taught music, chorus, band, and theater. From her first days
16 on the job, she began making a positive impact at the school and in the community. She expanded
17 the music department, played a vital role in reviving the musical theater program at the High
18 School, and also contributed to the musical productions at the middle school; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Young's wide-ranging positive impact on Smithfield High School went
20 far beyond teaching. She was a trusted mentor and advisor to all of her students and was always

1 willing go the extra mile for them and their families. Her passion for music and teaching was
2 contagious and she made an indelible impression on the loves of all the students who were lucky
3 enough to have her as a teacher; and

4 WHEREAS, In her free time, Mrs. Young loved cooking and hospitality. She enjoyed
5 cooking delicious meals for her family and many friends, and was a gracious and welcoming host
6 at numerous gatherings at her house. She also enjoyed paddle-boarding on a lake and soaking in
7 her hot tub; and

8 WHEREAS, Katherine Young was a faithful Christian and was a member of the music
9 team at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Pawtucket, where she sang every Sunday morning. She
10 also took great pleasure and joy in coaching her son's soccer team and teaching her daughter how
11 to play the piano; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to her husband, Richard, Katherine Young leaves behind her
13 children, Remy and Ramona and her sister, Christina Wolf; and

14 WHEREAS, Katherine Young was a shining star whose beacon burned brightly
15 throughout her life. She deeply loved her family, her pupils, and her many friends and she will
16 live forever in the hearts and memories of all who knew and loved her; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
18 expresses its condolences on the passing of Katherine E. Young; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
20 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Richard Young and Family.

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