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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE HAROLD L.
TRAFFORD, JR.

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Shanley, McNamara, Roberts,
Chippendale, Solomon, Serpa, Batista, and Vella-Wilkinson

Date Introduced: February 06, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the
2 Honorable Harold L. Trafford, Jr., the beloved husband of Jacqueline Trafford for 64 years; and

3 WHEREAS, The Honorable Harold L. Trafford, Jr., was born in Providence, a son of the
4 late Harold and Kathleen Trafford. He was raised in the Olneyville and Federal Hill
5 neighborhoods of Providence; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Trafford graduated from LaSalle Academy in 1952, and immediately
7 began working for the Providence Journal as a copy boy on the Evening Bulletin Staff, thus
8 beginning a successful forty-four year career with the Providence Journal that would culminate
9 with his advancement to the position of Section Editor and his retirement in 1996; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Trafford served the State of Rhode Island and our nation with honor for
11 ten years as a member of the Rhode Island National Guard 115th Military Police Company and
12 was honorably discharged in 1962 with the rank of Corporal; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Trafford has a long and distinguished record as a dedicated public
14 servant. He was elected to the Coventry Town Council in 1976, and served the citizens of
15 Coventry with distinction and abiding integrity for eight years. While on the council, he served as
16 President for his last four years; and

17 WHEREAS, After his service on the Town Council, Mr. Trafford was appointed to serve
18 on the Coventry Housing Authority, a position he held for several years. He played a key role in
19 the development and building of several elderly and affordable housing developments; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Trafford was a man of great faith and a devout Catholic his entire life.
2 He was a Past Grand Knight of the Monsignor Blessing Council, Knights of Columbus, and a
3 former District Deputy. He was a communicant of SS. John & Paul Parish in Coventry, where he
4 served as the President of the Parish Council, President of the Home/School Association, Parish
5 Auditor, Lector, and Eucharistic Minister. He also served as a Big Brother and had the great
6 honor of being inducted into the LaSalle Academy Hall of Fame; and

7 WHEREAS, In his free time, Mr. Trafford was a devoted fan of the Boston Red Sox.
8 Throughout his life, Mr. Trafford always put his family first and foremost; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Jacqueline, Mr. Trafford leaves behind his children,
10 Tammy Zink and her husband, Bill, Sherri Ferland and her husband, Robert, and his son, Daniel
11 Trafford and his wife, Renee. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, Mary, Kaleigh, Natalie,
12 Harold and William, and his brothers, George Trafford, and Edward Trafford and his wife,
13 Susanne. Mr. Trafford was also the brother of the late Robert Trafford; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
15 expresses its deepest condolences on the passing of the Honorable Harold L. Trafford, Jr.; and be
16 it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
18 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Jacqueline Trafford and Family.

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