

2022 -- H 7965

LC005478

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF CARROLL J. HUGHES,
SR.

Introduced By: Representatives Filippi, Blazejewski, McGaw, Shallcross Smith, Fellela,
Ajello, Slater, O'Brien, and Solomon

Date Introduced: March 10, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Carroll
2 Hughes, Sr., of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, Block Island and Newport. He was the beloved
3 husband of Jean Cronin for thirty years; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, the son of the late John
5 and Elizabeth Hughes and grew up on Booth Street in Stratford. He attended the University of
6 Bridgeport where he attained his Bachelor's and Master's degrees; and

7 WHEREAS, After graduation, Mr. Hughes began his distinguished public service career
8 as an assistant to the Mayor of Milford. He later moved to Hartford and worked in the office of
9 the Manager and Mayor; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes later moved on from Municipal service and in 1972, became the
11 Assistant Commissioner in the newly-created Department of Environmental Protection. He
12 remained in this position until 1974, when he left to open his own business; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1974, Mr. Hughes opened the first independent lobbying firm in
14 Connecticut, and for 47 years, served as the President of what came to be known as Hughes &
15 Cronin Public Affairs Strategies, a very successful and influential lobbying association
16 management firm. In 1986, his wife and business partner, Jean Cronin joined the firm, as well as
17 his youngest son, Sean in 2017. Throughout the past four decades, Mr. Hughes and his firm have
18 represented several hundred local and national clients before the Connecticut state legislature, and
19 state and municipal agencies; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes was a highly respected pioneer within the lobbying industry. He
2 served as a mentor, role model and trusted advisor who was widely respected for his integrity,
3 professionalism and ability to connect with people from all backgrounds. He had an uncanny
4 ability to remember everyone’s name even years after meeting them, and took great pride in
5 meeting every elected Connecticut State Legislator during his 47 year career as a lobbyist; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes loved spending his summer days with his wife on the beaches
7 of Block Island, having afternoon cocktails at the Spring House, and dancing and dinners at
8 Aldo’s. He was an avid and passionate sailor and “clammer”. Most of all, he enjoyed entertaining
9 his family and friends at his Block Island home; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Jean, Mr. Hughes leaves behind his children, Carroll
11 Hughes Jr., and his wife, Misty, Christopher and his partner, Valerie DeLuca, Josh and his wife,
12 Susanna, Jessica Karnes and her husband, Michael, and Sean and his fiancée, Alyssa Pereira, and
13 his grandchildren, Astrid, Sander, Oliver, and Benjamin Hughes, and Harrison Karnes. He also
14 leaves behind his in-laws, James and Virginia Cronin, his sister Donna Schreiber and her
15 husband, Charlie, his sisters-in-law, Anne Cronin and her husband, Mark Bussell, Pat Cronin, and
16 Margaret Hayes and her husband, Stephen, and his brothers-in-law, Richard Myers, Michael
17 Cronin, Stephen Cronin, Reverend Joseph Cronin, and James Cronin and his wife, Noreen, and
18 many nieces and nephews. Mr. Hughes was also predeceased by his brother, Jack, and his
19 brother-in-law, Fishel Liberman; and be it further

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes loved old Irish sayings and the wisdom they imparted. One of
21 his favorites was “May you have the hindsight to know where you’ve been, the foresight to know
22 where you are going, and the insight to know when you’ve gone too far”; now, therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
24 expresses its deepest condolences on the passing of Carroll J. Hughes, Sr.; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized to transmit a duly
26 certified copy of this resolution to Jean Cronin and Family.

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