

2018 -- H 8070

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LC005408
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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

**EXTENDING SINCERE BEST WISHES TO THE HONORABLE JOHN G. EDWARDS, IV,
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY**

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, Shekarchi, Lima, Canario, and Blazejewski

Date Introduced: April 10, 2018

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, A year of notable births, Prince, Madonna, and John G. Edwards, IV, were
2 all born in 1958. Jay was born on April 7th in Newport, the bouncing baby boy of John G
3 Edwards III, and Mary Ann Edwards, and the big brother of James Edwards; and

4 WHEREAS, Developing his renowned oratory skills at a very young age, John spent
5 many a day in the "talking chair" while in first grade. After attending Portsmouth's public
6 schools, he attended the Centre Scolaire St. Marc a Lyons in Lyons, France during his junior year
7 in high school and graduated from St. George's School in Middletown in 1976; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1973, Jay earned the distinction of becoming an Eagle Scout, the pinnacle
9 of achievement with the Boys Scouts, and has continued his association as a current member of
10 the National Eagle Scout Association. He also spent many hours sailing with the Ida Lewis Yacht
11 Club during his high school years; and

12 WHEREAS, Laying the foundation for a future in politics, Jay attained his Bachelor's
13 degree in Political Science from Northeastern University in 1983, where he served as Chief
14 Justice for student court, and campaigned for Ted Kennedy; and

15 WHEREAS, While attending college, Jay also consummated one of the biggest coups of
16 his life, while grooving at a rock and roll night club in Allston, Massachusetts, he met and
17 eventually convinced his beautiful wife, Donna, to marry him on August 14, 1982. They have
18 now been married for almost thirty-six years and have three wonderful children, John V, Kelsey,
19 and Mae, and most recently, a daughter-in-law, Brittany; and

1 WHEREAS, Jay has worn many hats during his life. He has licenses in both Rhode
2 Island and Massachusetts for construction supervision and has managed projects in several New
3 England states. During his lifetime, he has also worked as a personal manager, a bartender, a
4 bouncer at Bunratty's, a laborer for his dad and mom's construction company, and as a restaurant
5 manager, but throughout the years, his heart always led him to politics; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1991, Jay and Donna bought their first home in Tiverton, and beginning
7 in 1997, Jay served for ten years on the Tiverton Zoning Board. In 2007, he successfully ran for a
8 seat on the Town Council, and in 2009, won his seat in the Rhode Island House of
9 Representatives, an honor he still holds; and

10 WHEREAS, Serving his constituency in District 70, Jay has been a member of House
11 Finance, House Labor, House Judiciary, House Veterans Affairs and House Oversight
12 Committees, and the Joint Committee on Economic Development. Earning the respect and
13 admiration of his fellow Representatives, he currently serves as the House Majority Whip; and

14 WHEREAS, Committed to his community and public service, Jay's service has also
15 included, serving on the Tiverton school building committee, being a member of Lions Club
16 International, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Tiverton Democratic Committee, Save the Bay, the
17 Tiverton Land Trust, and the Sierra Club, and in 2014, becoming a CSG Henry Toll Fellow; and

18 WHEREAS, Jay Edwards has been blessed with a loving family and a multitude of
19 cherished friends and loyal followers who are honored to join him in this special celebration;
20 now, therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
22 Providence Plantations hereby joins the family and friends of John G. Edwards, IV, in honoring
23 him on the very special occasion of his 60th Birthday. We furthermore wish him success and
24 fulfillment, and the very best health and happiness for many years to come; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
26 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable John G. Edwards, IV.

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