

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GEORGE L. SUTCLIFFE

Introduced By: Senator John J. Tassoni

Date Introduced: January 27, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of George L.
2 Sutcliffe, the devoted husband of Olive Sutcliffe, the loving father of Lynne Lawrence and her
3 husband, Jerry, and Barry Sutcliffe and his wife, Paula. He was also the grandfather of Peter
4 Lawrence and his wife, Tammi, Brad, Aaron, Mark, and the late Jay Lawrence, and the great
5 grandfather of Brenna Lynne Lawrence; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in North Providence to the late George and Gladys Sutcliffe, Mr. Sutcliffe
7 had been a resident of the village of Greenville; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Sutcliffe had served our country with honor and distinction as a fighter
9 pilot during World War II. He completed over eighty successful missions including four on D-DAY;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, During an air battle over Lisieux, France, Mr. Sutcliffe outmaneuvered forty
12 enemy warplanes and earned world-wide recognition. The events were later documented on the
13 History Channel's series "Dogfights." He was inducted into the Smithfield Heritage Hall of Fame,
14 the State of Rhode Island Hall of Fame, and the State of Rhode Island Aviation Hall of Fame for his
15 heroic actions, and earned membership in the Caterpillar Club for bailing out of his plane in 1943;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, A hard-working man, who possessed an abundance of business acumen and an
18 equal measure of compassion, Mr. Sutcliffe had co-founded the Bradford-Sutcliffe Insurance Agency
19 in 1957 and established the Jay G. Lawrence Foundation in 2001; and

20 WHEREAS, Always an active and contributing member of the community, Mr. Sutcliffe

1 was a past president of the Smithfield Lions Club, a member of the Quiet Birdman Pilot Association,
2 the Smithfield Memorial Veterans' Committee, the Quonset Air Museum, Smithfield VFW #2929,
3 and a charter member of the National World War II Museum Committee; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Sutcliffe was a steadfast gentleman and a consummate humanitarian who
5 left this world a far better place because of his life's endeavors. He enriched the lives of all who
6 knew him and he will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
8 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the entire Sutcliffe and Lawrence Families on the
9 passing of George L. Sutcliffe; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Olive Sutcliffe and Family.

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