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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE RAYMOND E. SHAWCROSS ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE RHODE ISLAND FAMILY COURT

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, McCaffrey, Lynch, Jabour, and Nesselbush

Date Introduced: January 27, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, The Honorable Raymond E. Shawcross, a Justice with the Rhode Island  
2 Family Court and a highly respected adjudicator, is retiring on January 31, 2011, after twenty-  
3 four distinguished years on the bench; and

4           WHEREAS, A graduate of LaSalle Academy, Judge Shawcross earned his Bachelor's  
5 degree from Providence College, and his Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School. He  
6 is married to Noreen Shawcross, retired Executive Director of the Rhode Island Housing  
7 Resources Commission, and is the father of Karen, Patricia, and Lisa; and

8           WHEREAS, Appointed to the bench in 1986 by Governor DiPrete, The Honorable  
9 Raymond Shawcross attributes his initial interest in family law to his wife, who was a social  
10 worker at the time; and

11           WHEREAS, Previous to his appointment on the bench, Justice Shawcross served as  
12 counsel to House Majority Leader Joseph DeAngelis and House Speaker Matt Smith. He was  
13 Chief Legal Counsel for Child Welfare Services and with the Department of Social and  
14 Rehabilitative Services; and

15           WHEREAS, Rhode Island's Family Court was formed to assist and process problems and  
16 situations involving children and families. Over the course of Justice Shawcross' career on the  
17 bench, he worked diligently to keep families together, finding the work to be "very, very  
18 challenging, but very satisfying"; and

19           WHEREAS, Judge Shawcross possesses compassion, a brilliant legal mind, and the

1 ability to adjudicate his caseload in a just and timely manner. He has devoted more than two  
2 decades to improving the lives of Rhode Island's children and their families and he is eminently  
3 deserving of our recognition and praise; now, therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
5 hereby expresses our sincere gratitude to Justice Raymond Shawcross for presiding with  
6 compassion, fairness, and justice over matters before the Rhode Island Family Court. We  
7 furthermore congratulate him on his retirement and wish him good health and some well-  
8 deserved time for relaxation and travel with his family and loved ones; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Raymond E. Shawcross.

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