

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL A PLAQUE MEMORIALIZING THE ANDREWS  
BROTHERS ON EXIT 6 ON I-195E

Introduced By: Senators DaPonte, Conley, and Coyne

Date Introduced: March 29, 2017

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

1 WHEREAS, In the late 1950s, many houses, an old convent, and three schools along  
2 School Street, Oakley St., and Freeborn Avenue, from the Washington Bridge to the  
3 Massachusetts State line, were razed to dig out Interstate 195; and

4 WHEREAS, On November 11, 1961, this route was named the "East Providence  
5 Veterans' Memorial Expressway". Each of the five bridges connecting the newly divided city was  
6 named in honor of two local veterans; and

7 WHEREAS, On I-195E, the Broadway exit ramp proceeds to Broadway at the foot of the  
8 Freeborn Avenue hill; and

9 WHEREAS, Before I-195 was built, this exit location was 944 Broadway, which was the  
10 site of the backyard and home of the Andrews family; and

11 WHEREAS, Joseph and Maria Andrews had built their home during the late 1920s and  
12 had raised their five sons and two daughters there; and

13 WHEREAS, Four of Joseph and Maria Andrews sons served our country with honor at  
14 different times and in different countries during World War II. James Andrews served in  
15 Germany; Albert Andrews received two Purple Hearts for his service in Belgium; George  
16 Andrews re-enlisted and became a Major; and Joseph, Jr., who had begged his mother to sign his  
17 papers because he was too young to serve, was assigned to the Construction Battalion (Seabees).  
18 Upon leaving the service, they all returned home to East Providence; and

19 WHEREAS, The heroism of the World War II generation embodies the personification of

1 what makes our country so glorious and these four brave and honorable men are eminently  
2 worthy of our recognition; now, therefore be it

3           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation  
4 hereby respectfully requests the Director of the Department of Transportation to construct and  
5 install a plaque, similar in appearance to the signs placed at the five bridges on I-195, at the ramp  
6 of Exit 6 on I-195E, also known as the Warren Avenue/Broadway/Pawtucket Avenue exit,  
7 memorializing the Andrews Brothers in recognition of their service and sacrifice to this nation  
8 during World War II; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Department of  
11 Transportation.

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