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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

**EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF CLIFTON R.
LARGESS, JR.**

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, and Hodgson

Date Introduced: March 15, 2011

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Clifton R. Largess, Jr., was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, the son of the
2 late Clifton R., Sr., and Winifred K. (Warnke) Largess. Clifton received a bachelor's degree in
3 chemistry from the College of the Holy Cross in 1942 and then, like millions of other young men
4 at the time, enlisted in the armed forces to serve in World War II. Clifton enlisted in the United
5 States Navy and, since he already had an aviation license, he was trained to be a combat aviator;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, After completing the necessary training, Clifton left Pearl Harbor on
8 Christmas Eve in 1943 to serve in the Pacific Theater. From this day forward, Clifton saw combat
9 action in most parts of the Pacific. He flew off of aircraft carriers in the dead of night and took
10 part in the dangerous bombing of Truk Lagoon, Japan's primary base in the Pacific. Clifton also
11 served our nation during the Korean War, and in both wars he served our nation with honor, valor
12 and courage; and

13 WHEREAS, Clifton completed General Line School in Newport in 1949 and graduated
14 from the Naval War College in 1955. In 1964, he received a master's degree in International
15 Relations from George Washington University. Clifton served in the United States Navy for
16 thirty-one years, retiring in 1973 with the rank of Captain. For his service to our nation, he was
17 awarded five Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Bronze Star, and seven Air Medals; and

18 WHEREAS, After retiring from the Navy, Clifton was the commanding officer of the
19 Navy program at the University of Rochester, where he taught for seven years. He was a member

1 of the Jamestown Rotary Club, Fleet Reserve Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the
2 American Legion. He was a communicant of St. Mark Church and was a charter member of the
3 Knights of Columbus. He was the loving husband for sixty-four years of Mary R. (Curran)
4 Largess, a retired Stewardess from American Airlines, whom he met and married in 1945 coming
5 home from serving in World War II. Together they had eight children; and

6 WHEREAS, Besides his wife, Clifton R. Largess, Jr., leaves behind four sons, Clifton R.
7 Largess III, Mark W. Largess, Matthew C. Largess, and Stephen L. Largess, two daughters, Mary
8 C. Lee and Catherine M. Woodward; a brother, Donald Largess, a sister, Jean Largess; and eleven
9 grandchildren. He was the father of the late John J. and Daniel P. Largess, and the brother of the
10 late Kenneth and Robert Largess; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
12 hereby expresses its deepest condolences on the passing of Clifton R. Largess, Jr. We thank him
13 for his heroic service to our nation; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mary R. Largess.

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