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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE EDWARD V.
HEALEY, JR.

Introduced By: Senators Algieri, Paiva Weed, Miller, Ruggerio, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: May 25, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness and regret that this Senate has learned of the passing
2 of retired Senior Associate Justice Edward V. Healey, Jr., a highly respected retired adjudicator
3 with the Rhode Island Family Court and a devoted family man; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Providence to the late Edward, Sr., and Margaret Healey, Judge
5 Healey was raised in an Irish-Catholic neighborhood in South Providence. He graduated from
6 LaSalle Academy at the age of 16 and received his Bachelor of Science degree from Providence
7 College; and

8 WHEREAS, Upon his graduation from Providence College, Judge Healey enlisted in the
9 United States Army, serving with honor and distinction with the U.S. Army's 88th Infantry
10 Division, "The Blue Devils," during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery
11 and the Combat Infantryman Badge for actively engaging the enemy in ground combat. Judge
12 Healey later served in the U.S. Army Reserve and was honorably discharged with the rank of
13 Captain; and

14 WHEREAS, Upon his return to the states, Judge Healey returned to school and received
15 his J.D. in law from the Boston University School of Law. He was admitted to the Rhode Island
16 Bar in 1949, and began his legal career as an associate of the Christopher DelSesto Law Firm and
17 later was a partner of the Healey and Mondlick Law Firm; and

18 WHEREAS, After working as his Campaign Manager, Judge Healey served as Chief of
19 Staff to Governor DelSesto. In 1960, at the age of thirty-eight, Judge Healey was appointed an

1 Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Juvenile Court. In 1961, he was subsequently appointed an
2 Associate Justice of the newly formed Rhode Island Family Court where he served with
3 distinction until his retirement as the Senior Associate Justice in 1988; and

4 WHEREAS, Judge Healey amassed numerous professional distinctions and privileges
5 during the course of his illustrious career. He was a recipient of the Exemplary Citizenship Award
6 from Providence College, the Herbert Harley Award, and the Meritorious Service to Juvenile
7 Courts of America Award. In 1981, he was the first recipient of the Neil J. Houston, Jr. Memorial
8 Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Criminal Justice, and in 2009, he was the
9 first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, which later named the award in perpetuity the
10 Judge Edward V. Healey, Jr., Lifetime Achievement Award in his honor. He was also the
11 recipient of the Man of the Year Award from the Christian Brothers Boys' Association, the
12 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, the R.I. Association of Retarded Children, and the Fraternal Order of
13 Eagles. In 1989, he received the great distinction to be inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage
14 Hall of Fame, and in 2009, he was inducted into the LaSalle Academy Hall of Fame; and

15 WHEREAS, Earning admiration and recognition from his peers, Judge Healey merited a
16 myriad of positions over the course of his lifetime. He was a delegate to the White House
17 Conference on Children and later served as a member of the National Advisory Committee on
18 Criminal Justice and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. In 1974, he was the first
19 Rhode Island Judge to be elected president of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court
20 Judges. He later served on the Board of Fellows of the National Center of Juvenile Justice, as the
21 Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the National Juvenile Court Foundation, and as a Faculty
22 Member of the National College of Juvenile Justice. In 1982, he was appointed as a member of
23 the President's National Advisory Commission on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention,
24 and for nearly twenty years, he served as the only American Deputy-Vice President of the
25 International Association of Youth and Family Magistrates and Judges, to name just a few; and

26 WHEREAS Associated with many local organizations, Judge Healey was a member of
27 the Board of Directors of Butler Hospital Corporation, the Cranston Boys' Club, the R.I. League
28 for Emotionally Disturbed Children, the R.I. Association for Mental Health, the Sophia Little
29 Home, and the R.I. Conference of Social Work. He was a Past Grand Knight of the Tyler
30 Council-Knights of Columbus, a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the
31 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Providence, the Sons of Irish Kings and the Friendly
32 Sons of St. Patrick of Providence, and a Board Member of the Bishop Russell J. McVinney
33 Foundation for Seminarian Education. He was also a sixty-year parishioner of St. Paul's Church
34 in Edgewood; and

1 WHEREAS, Judge Healey had been married to the late Lillian “Dolly” (Devlin) Healey
2 for thirty-seven years, and together the couple raised their nine children, Nancy, Kevin, Edward
3 and his wife, Maureen, Janice, Sean, Michael and his wife, Susan, Christopher, Ann and her
4 husband, James, and Father Bernard. He was also the grandfather of thirteen grandchildren,
5 Jennifer, and her husband Neil, Kaitlyn, Colin, Kyle, Devlin, Sean, Ryan, Justin, Kathleen,
6 Shannon, Emily, Jillian, and Margaret, as well as two great-grandchildren, Victoria and Zoey;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Judge Edward Healey, Jr., possessed a brilliant mind, and a fair and
9 magnanimous spirit, and he will be profoundly missed by those who had the good fortune to be a
10 part of his vital and fulfilling life; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
12 hereby expresses our deepest personal sympathies on the passing of the Honorable Edward V.
13 Healey, Jr. He will forever be remembered by the entire membership and the citizens of this State
14 as a highly respected and admired judge who presided with fairness and justice over the matters
15 before Rhode Island’s Family Court; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Nancy Healey, Kevin Healey, Edward and
18 Maureen Healey, Janice Healey, Sean Healey, Michael and Susan Healey, Christopher Healey,
19 Ann and James Donohue, and Father Bernard Healey.

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