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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF
SANDRA STOKES MADISON GAFFETT

Introduced By: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

Date Introduced: June 28, 2011

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Sandra
2 “Sandy” Gaffett, loving wife and partner for fifty-five years to Lew Gaffett, and the devoted
3 mother of Kim Gaffett, Nat Gaffett, Beth Gaffett Tengwall, and her husband, Pat, Heather
4 Gaffett, and Kerri Spier, and her husband, John. She was also the very proud and doting
5 grandmother of Paige, Caitlyn, David, Sam, Sally, Ginny, and Ian; and

6 WHEREAS, Sandy Gaffett was the daughter of Virginia and Harold Madison, Jr. Born
7 in Cleveland, Ohio, Sandy had lived in many homes and in numerous states throughout her
8 lifetime, but during every single summer, from the time she was two months old until she moved
9 full-time to Block Island in the late 50s, Sandy made her home and loved her life on the Island;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, A graduate of Southern Connecticut College with a degree in library
12 science, Sandy was a constant fixture at the Island Free Library, where she shared her love of
13 books and local news with her abundant friends and acquaintances. She enjoyed all genres, but
14 especially children’s literature, mysteries, historical novels, and anything British. Sandy also
15 enjoyed knitting, traveling, walking, and cruising over to and around England; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to making a home for her family and time at the library, Sandy
17 served on the Block Island School Board, as a member of the Home Rule Charter Committee, and
18 on the BI Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. She was also involved with the re-establishment of
19 the Episcopal Church on the Island, and with the Ecumenical Choir, as well as other civic

1 organizations and causes; and

2 WHEREAS, There is no doubt that Sandra Gaffett, a gracious and gifted woman, left an
3 indelible mark on the lives of those she knew and loved, and she will be dearly missed; now,
4 therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
6 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the Gaffett Family on the passing of Sandra Stokes
7 Madison Gaffett. She will forever be remembered for her dedication and myriad contributions to
8 the people and essence of Block Island; 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 Lew Gaffett and Family.

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