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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE BRADFORD  
GORHAM

Introduced By: Senators Kettle, Algieri, Gee, Morgan, and E O'Neill

Date Introduced: January 28, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of  
2 Bradford Gorham. He is survived by his second wife, Christine Gorham, and was the devoted  
3 husband for forty-four years to the late Diann Gorham. He was the loving father of Christopher  
4 Gorham and his wife, Gemma, our former colleague, Nicholas Gorham and his wife, Roseanna,  
5 Joshua Gorham and his wife, Rebecca, Jane Gurzenda, and Nancy Boyden and her husband,  
6 Robert. He was the very proud grandfather of fourteen grandchildren, Mark, Roy, Jeffrey, Mary,  
7 Sara, Jared, Julia, Austin, Alejandra, Campbell, Eleanor, Nathaniel, Oliver, and Reese, and is also  
8 survived by Christine Gorham's children, Mary and James, his brothers, John and Nicholas  
9 Gorham, and his sister, Desire Gorham Palmer; and

10           WHEREAS, Born in Providence to the late Sayles and Ruth Gorham, Bradford Gorham  
11 was a graduate of Hope High School and Dartmouth College. Upon graduation from college, he  
12 served our country with honor as a platoon leader and company commander in the United States  
13 Marine Corps, and later in the Marine Reserves. He was honorably discharged from the Marines  
14 as a Captain, and subsequently graduated with honors from Harvard Law School; and

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Gorham had been a resident of Foster for many years. Always an active  
16 and contributing member of the community, he wore many hats during his lifetime. He was not  
17 only a lawyer for more than fifty years and served as a probate judge, but he also enjoyed being a  
18 gentleman farmer and was a published author; and

19           WHEREAS, In addition, the Honorable Brad Gorham served the people of Rhode Island

1 in both the House and Senate of the Rhode Island General Assembly, where he earned the respect  
2 of his peers and rose to the position of Minority Leader of the House. His political  
3 accomplishments also included being elected to the Constitutional Convention and serving as  
4 Republican State Chairman; and

5 WHEREAS, Proud of his heritage, Mr. Gorham was a Mayflower descendant and had  
6 served as President of the Pilgrim John Howland Society of Plymouth, Massachusetts. In  
7 partnership with the organization, he built and then sailed the "Elizabeth Tilley" on the same  
8 route taken by John Howland in 1625. He was also a longtime member of the Foster Lions Club,  
9 the Moosup Valley Grange, the Rhode Island Vermont Society of Colonial Wars, the Ionic Lodge  
10 No. 28 FA & M, and the Howard Foundation; and

11 WHEREAS, Bradford Gorham loved spending time with his family at their beach house  
12 in Quonochontaug and on his farm and he took great pride in serving the people of Rhode Island  
13 in myriad capacities. He will be dearly missed by all who had the good fortune to have been part  
14 of his amazing life; now, therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
16 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of the Honorable Bradford Gorham; and  
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
19 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Christine Gorham and Family.

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