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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013**

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**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RICHARD J. WALTON**

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, Guthrie, Mattiello, Bennett, and Hull

Date Introduced: January 02, 2013

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Richard  
2 J. Walton, father of Richard Walton and Cathy Barnard, and a highly respected author, teacher,  
3 journalist, and social and political activist; and

4           WHEREAS, Richard Walton was born in Saratoga Springs, New York, to Gertrude and  
5 Richard James Walton. After moving to Providence with his family, he attended Classical High  
6 School and received a bachelor's degree from Brown University. His studies at Brown were  
7 interrupted for two years while he served in the United States Navy as a journalist's mate; and

8           WHEREAS, Upon graduation from Brown, Mr. Walton worked as a disc jockey for  
9 WICE, a Providence radio station. In 1954, he continued his education, receiving his master's  
10 degree from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism; and

11           WHEREAS, Multi-talented in a panoply of journalistic roles, Mr. Walton worked at The  
12 Providence Journal, the New York World-Telegram, the New York Sun, and the Voice of  
13 America Radio. He was the producer-host of Report to Africa, a principal United Nations  
14 correspondent, and an extensively published author; and

15           WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Walton taught at Rhode Island College for more than two  
16 decades and had also been a teacher at Housatonic Community College, The New School for  
17 Social Research in New York City, and what is now Western Connecticut State University; and

18           WHEREAS, Always an active and contributing member of the community, Mr. Walton  
19 held numerous charitable fundraisers, had a long-time affiliation with Amos House, where he  
20 served as President for many years, and was a vital supporter of the non-profit folk-music venue

1 Stone Soup Coffeehouse, serving as President of its parent organization, the Stone Soup Folk Arts  
2 Foundation, for many years. He had also run for vice president on the Citizens Party ticket and  
3 was an early and very active member of the Green Party in Rhode Island; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Walton was a conduit to change through his advocacy for the homeless,  
5 the hungry, and those less fortunate. His social and political conscience left this world a far better  
6 place and enriched the lives of all who knew him. He will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
8 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Richard J.  
9 Walton; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Richard Walton and Cathy Barnard.

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