

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

JOYOUSLY CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF NORTH SMITHFIELD ON MARCH 24, 2021

Introduced By: Representatives Newberry, Blazejewski, Fellela, and Fogarty

Date Introduced: March 16, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Prior to colonization, tribes of indigenous Native American people
2 flourished for thousands of years on the land that is now North Smithfield; and

3 WHEREAS, White settlers, led by Edward Inman of Providence, first purchased property
4 in this northern outland area in 1660. For the next 150 years, more settlers increasingly formed
5 small farms on the land, thereby expanding Roger Williams' "Lively Experiment."; and

6 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island colony incorporated the northern settlements into the
7 Town of Smithfield in 1731. Due to its key location at the crossroads of early stagecoach routes,
8 Union Village grew into an important commercial center in the Town; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1806, John Slater and his partners first purchased the Buffum Mills
10 property on the banks of the Branch River leading to the creation of Slatersville, the first planned
11 industrial mill village in America. In the following decades, new mill villages were formed in
12 Forestdale, Branch Village and Waterford; and

13 WHEREAS, On March 24, 1871, the State of Rhode Island divided Smithfield into
14 Lincoln, Smithfield, and North Smithfield, and Globe Village was annexed to Woonsocket; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1966, the Town opened its first High School continuing an over 150-year
16 tradition of enthusiastic support for education. In 1971, the residents of North Smithfield adopted
17 its Home Rule Charter; and

18 WHEREAS, Today, the Town of North Smithfield continues to thrive. Its residents
19 cherish its rich heritage, adapt to current challenges and look forward to a bright future; now,

1 therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
3 joyously celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the Town of North Smithfield on March 24th, 2021;
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Paul Zwolenski, North Smithfield Town
7 Administrator.

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