

**2011 -- H 6171**

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LC02707  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011**

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

COMMEMORATING POSTHUMOUSLY PAWTUCKET POLICE OFFICER SAMUEL W. SLOCUM FOR BEING THE FIRST PAWTUCKET POLICE OFFICER TO DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY AND FOR HIS INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Introduced By: Representatives DaSilva, Johnston, Messier, E Coderre, and JP O'Neill

Date Introduced: May 18, 2011

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, On February 4, 1906, Officer Samuel W. Slocum was the first Pawtucket  
2 Police Officer to die in the line of duty. For 105 years his sacrifice to the city of Pawtucket went  
3 unrecognized until retired Sergeant James Ignasher of the Cranston Police Department came upon  
4 his name while conducting research. Sergeant Marc Boisclair and Chief Paul King began a  
5 campaign to have Officer Slocum officially recognized as having been killed in the line of duty  
6 by having his name added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. On May 13<sup>th</sup>,  
7 prior to the start of National Law Enforcement Officers Week, which is held this year from May  
8 15-21, Slocum's name was dedicated and is now officially part of the Memorial; and

9           WHEREAS, Officer Slocum had served the city of Pawtucket as a Police Officer from  
10 before the city was first incorporated in 1886, up to his death in the line of duty in 1906. He was  
11 walking his usual beat on Benefit Street when he was sent to address a disturbance and  
12 encountered an individual named Frank Quinn, who had kicked in a door and was brandishing a  
13 pistol. Quinn attempted to run away and Officer Slocum chased after him in hot pursuit. Slocum  
14 caught up with him and arrested him, but tragically, suffered a massive heart attack and collapsed  
15 as he attempted to call in the arrest. He died shortly thereafter; and

16           WHEREAS, Officer Samuel W. Slocum will also soon receive another proper tribute  
17 befitting a Police Officer who falls in the line of duty. His image will be added to the entryway of  
18 the Pawtucket Police Department; now, therefore be it

1           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
2 Providence Plantations hereby commemorates posthumously Pawtucket Police Officer Samuel  
3 W. Slocum for being the first Pawtucket Police Officer to die in the line of duty and for his  
4 inclusion in the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and be it  
5 further

6           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
7 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to retired Sergeant James Ignasher, Pawtucket  
8 Police Chief Paul King and Pawtucket Police Sergeant Mark Boisclair.

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