

2022 -- H 7053

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE  
WILLIAM D. DURAND

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Corvese, Messier, McNamara,  
Ruggiero, Kennedy, O'Brien, Filippi, and Casey

Date Introduced: January 11, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the  
2 Honorable William D. Durand, a distinguished public servant, educator, lawyer, former member  
3 of the Rhode Island House of Representatives and the devoted husband of Jeanne Durand; and

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Durand was born and raised in Pawtucket, the son of the late Francis  
5 and Jeannette Durand. He attended Rhode Island College and was awarded a Bachelor's degree in  
6 Music and a Master's degree in Instructional Technology. He later attained a law degree from  
7 Suffolk University in 1983. Mr. Durand also served our nation with honor as a member of the  
8 Rhode Island National Guard's 88th Army Band; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Durand taught music for nine years with distinction at Cumberland  
10 Middle School. In 1981, he started a new career in the cable television industry and in 1985, he  
11 joined the New England Cable & Television Association (NECTA), serving as Legal Counsel for  
12 thirty-one years before retiring as the Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Counsel in 2016.  
13 Mr. Durand also taught Business Law and Legal Environment of Business at Providence College  
14 for twenty-two years; and

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Durand was elected five times to the Rhode Island House of  
16 Representatives, serving his Pawtucket constituents with integrity from 1976 to 1985. He served  
17 as the Vice-Chairman of the House Education and Welfare Committee and worked tirelessly on  
18 generic drugs legislation and third-party coverage of alcoholism treatment; and

19           WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Mr. Durand is survived by his son, Brian Durand and

1 his wife, Laurie, and his daughter, Jennifer Sousa and her husband, Jason. He is also survived by  
2 his five grandchildren, Madison, Violette, and Maxwell Durand and Jacob and Elleana Sousa, as  
3 well as many nieces and nephews. Mr. Durand was the brother of Paul Durand and his wife,  
4 Paula, Douglas Durand and his wife, Elizabeth, Nancy McAllister and her husband, James, Lynne  
5 Clay and her husband, Robert, and the late Emma Durand, Susan Ritchotte, and Stephen Durand;  
6 now, therefore be it

7           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
8 offers its deepest condolences on the passing of the Honorable William D. Durand; and be it  
9 further

10           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Jeanette Durand and Family.

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