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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING EAST GREENWICH PATROLMAN MATTHEW C. WHITE ON BEING
AWARDED THE SILVER STAR FOR BRAVERY FOR SAVING A LIFE

Introduced By: Senators Gee, Kettle, Algieri, Morgan, and Ottiano

Date Introduced: June 18, 2015

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Every day, Police officers risk their lives to protect the lives and property of
2 the people they serve. However, sometimes extraordinary courage and bravery is required from a
3 police officer to save a life. East Greenwich Patrolman Matthew C. White answered the call of
4 duty under trying and dangerous circumstances and heroically saved a person's life; and

5 WHEREAS, On April 3, 2015, Officer White responded to an urgent 911 call from a
6 woman who had seen an intoxicated man stumbling down the train tracks. Upon arriving on the
7 scene, Officer White saw the man lying down on the tracks and immediately radioed dispatchers
8 asking them to contact Amtrak to stop all approaching trains. He then approached the man and
9 told him to get off the tracks. Shortly thereafter, a train approached and Officer White raced to the
10 man to get him off the tracks. The suspect put up a fight, kicking and swinging, demanding "let
11 me go! It's over, it's over." Officer White, with a train still approaching, had to think fast. He
12 subdued the man, picked him up in a fireman's carry, and was forced to toss him off the tracks
13 and then dive off the tracks himself in order to avoid the passing train; and

14 WHEREAS, Patrolman White acted above and beyond the call of duty when he
15 courageously risked his life to save the life of a fellow citizen. For this, Officer White has been
16 awarded the Silver Star by the National Police Chiefs Associations' Police Hall of Fame, and
17 serves as an inspiration to all of us; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
19 hereby congratulates East Greenwich Patrolman Matthew White for earning the Silver Star for

1 bravery, and thanks him for saving a person's life on April 3, 2015; and be it further
2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to East Greenwich Patrolman Matthew C. White.

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