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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

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SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE  
GEORGE T. PANICHAS

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, McBurney, Connors, E O'Neill, and Algieri

Date Introduced: March 02, 2010

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, It is with profound sadness and regret that this Senate has learned of the  
2 passing of George T. Panichas, a devoted family man, well respected former member of the  
3 Rhode Island House of Representatives, and decorated veteran of World War II; and

4           WHEREAS, A loyal and hardworking man, George Panichas grew up in the City of  
5 Pawtucket. He met and married the love of his life, Angela, in 1952, and together they raised  
6 their three children, Denise, Joan, and George, Jr. He had been a corporate business advisor and  
7 realtor; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Panichas served our country with honor and incredible bravery during  
9 World War II as an Air Force Combat Tailgunner. He completed fifty missions over enemy  
10 occupied Europe, a feat that very few men had the courage to endure and only few survived; and

11           WHEREAS, On November 3<sup>rd</sup> of 1970, Mr. Panichas was elected to the Rhode Island  
12 House of Representatives where he staunchly served the people of Pawtucket for fourteen years.  
13 He served on the House Committee on Finance, and was notably the first Greek-American  
14 elected state official in the history of Rhode Island; and

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Panichas was actively involved in community affairs throughout his  
16 lifetime. He was devoted to his faith and a member of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church.  
17 He was also a member of the American Legion, V.F.W., Pawtucket Board of Realtors, National  
18 Board of Realtors, 401<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group Association, Turks Head Club, Order of A.H.E.P.A.,  
19 Overseas Lodge No. 40, F & AM, Scottish Rite, Palestine Temple, Trowel Club, Democratic

1 State Committeeman, and the Democratic Party Executive Committee; and

2 WHEREAS, A member of the Rhode Island Veterans' Advisory Board and Veterans'  
3 Cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island, where the "George Panichas Administration Building" was  
4 named in his honor, Mr. Panichas was also a member of the Governor's Advisory Committee on  
5 Veterans' Affairs, and served as the Chairperson of the Oversight Subcommittee for the Veterans'  
6 Cemetery; and

7 WHEREAS, Our thoughts and hearts hold great empathy and sorrow for the family of  
8 The Honorable George Panichas. In addition to his wife of fifty-seven years and his children, Mr.  
9 Panichas was the loving grandfather of four beautiful grandchildren, Angela, Michael, George III,  
10 and Melina. He was also a great father-in-law to Mathew and Sia; and

11 WHEREAS, The Honorable George Panichas was blessed with the love of his family, the  
12 loyalty of his friends, and the respect of his community. He enriched the lives of all who knew  
13 him and will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
15 hereby expresses its deepest sympathies to the entire Panichas Family on the passing of The  
16 Honorable George Panichas. He will forever be remembered by this Senate and the people of  
17 Rhode Island for his commitment to the citizens of our Ocean State; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to  
19 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. George Panichas and Family.

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