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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RICHARD D. FOSSA

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Ciccone, Archambault, Paolino, and Nesselbush

Date Introduced: June 17, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Richard D. Fossa, the son of G. Richard Fossa, former Mayor of North
2 Providence, and the late Jean Fossa, passed away on June 13, 2020. He was the loving husband of
3 Teri Holmes; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Fossa was a beloved figure within the Rhode Island High School
5 athletics community, widely admired for the passion he brought to his duties as a coach, manager
6 and athletic director, and for the positive difference he made in the lives of countless young
7 people; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Fossa was a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Ohio
9 University from which he attained a Master's of Science degree in Administration. He began his
10 distinguished public service career as a coach at North Providence High School, before moving
11 on to Narragansett. As the head football coach, he won the Division IV Super Bowl in 1999 and
12 2003. Altogether, he coached the Narragansett Mariners for fifteen years and later coached its
13 baseball team; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Fossa subsequently moved into administration positions and served as
15 the Narragansett High School Athletic Director and, most recently, as the North Kingstown High
16 School Athletic Director, where in just three short years he had turned it into one of the elite
17 public school athletic departments in Rhode Island; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Fossa has received numerous awards and honors in recognition of his
19 esteemed public service career. He won the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Sportsmanship
20 Award for 1999, the Providence Gridiron Coach of the Year award four times, and was named to

1 the Club's Hall of Fame. He also served as the President of the Club for seven years, and was a
2 Past President of the Rhode Island High School Football Coaches Association. Mr. Fossa was
3 inducted into the North Providence Sports Hall of Fame, the Italian American Sports Hall of
4 Fame, and the Rhode Island High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Fossa was very active in community affairs. He was a member of the
6 Narragansett Lion's Club and the Narragansett Community Athletic Complex Fundraising and
7 Construction Boards, where he played a vital role in securing funding for the high school to build
8 a state-of-the-art playing field with a track and lights, an accomplishment he had vigorously
9 pursued for years in order to give all student-athletes the best possible athletic experience; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife Teri, Mr. Fossa leaves behind his children, Cameron
11 Fossa, Casondra Fossa, and Corey Fossa, and his wife, Lindsey. He was also the grandfather of
12 Camden and Collins, brother of Lorna Fossa-Moretti and her husband Robert, and was the Uncle
13 and Godfather of Briana and Brandon; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
15 hereby expresses its condolences to the family of Richard D. Fossa; and be it further

16 RESOLVED That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Teri Fossa and Family.

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