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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF EDNA O'NEILL MATTSON

Introduced By: Senator James C. Sheehan

Date Introduced: June 17, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, It is with profound sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of
2 Edna O'Neill Mattson, the cherished mother of John O'Neill Mattson and his wife, Annette
3 Hofmann, and the late James Walter Mattson and Edwin Albert Mattson, and the devoted
4 grandmother of her "Sunshine" Anna Mattson-Hofmann; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Boston, Massachusetts, the youngest daughter in the large and
6 loving family of the late Francis and Edna O'Neill, Mrs. O'Neill Mattson was the sister of the late
7 James O'Neill, Patricia Shamon, and Terrance O'Neill, and the aunt to many nieces and nephews;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Later, as part of a military family, Mrs. O'Neill Mattson had relocated
10 myriad times before settling down in North Kingstown. In addition to making a home for her
11 family, she worked as the Director of Facility Use of the Community Colleges of Rhode Island
12 for almost forty years; and

13 WHEREAS, As a young girl, Mrs. O'Neill Mattson was involved with the Girls Scouts,
14 beginning what would become a lifetime of volunteerism including her efforts with the American
15 Red Cross, Navy Relief Society, and service as Committee Chair Member for the RIESGR. She
16 was also active with the CCRI Foundation, had helped to organize the Academic Decathlon,
17 supported student leadership committees, and had served as a union representative, until her
18 retirement at the age of 81; and

19 WHEREAS, A proud and devoted Democrat, Mrs. O'Neill Mattson had earned the
20 respect and admiration of the many citizens and candidates she helped through the years. She was

1 a volunteer for John F. Kennedy, served as the Rhode Island Democratic National Committee
2 Woman and as a Super Delegate, and was proud to have had the honor of shaking hands with
3 Eleanor Roosevelt; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. O'Neill Mattson was recognized for her dedicated efforts on behalf of
5 numerous altruistic causes and had been the recipient of the YWCA Women of Achievement
6 Award and the RIDNC Eleanor Slater Award; and

7 WHEREAS, The most fitting tribute to Edna O'Neill Mattson is a celebration of her life,
8 a life in which each and every day was lived fully. She brightened and enriched the lives of many
9 and she will be dearly missed and forever remembered; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
11 hereby expresses its heartfelt condolences on the passing of Edna O'Neill Mattson; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. John O'Neill Mattson and Family.

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