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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

THANKING HOWELL SMITH, III, AND THE GENERATIONS OF DEVOTED
PHARMACISTS, PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND STAFF AT HOWELL SMITH
DRUGGIST FOR EIGHTY-TWO YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF
PAWTUCKET AND SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Ruggerio, Lombardi, Metts, and Lawson

Date Introduced: May 29, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, More than eight decades ago, Howell J. Smith Sr., and Margaret Smith
2 opened the Howell Smith Druggist in the City of Pawtucket, complete with full prescription
3 dispensing services, various sundry items and a soda fountain "that drew in droves of young
4 people"; and

5 WHEREAS, Howell Smith Druggist has always been a family-owned pharmacy,
6 originally opened in 1937 by Howell J. Smith, Sr. and Margaret Smith, and continued by Howell
7 J. Smith, II, and Janet Smith, as well as their dedicated manager, William Masse, and ultimately
8 led by the current pharmacist and President, Howell Smith, III, grandson of the founder, together
9 with his wife, Kristen Smith, his daughter, Emily Demers, his sister, Joyce Cote, his son, Howell
10 Smith, IV, who had worked at the business for a number of years, and Pharmacist Technician
11 John Bent; and

12 WHEREAS, Located at the corner of Central and Newport Avenues, Howell Smith
13 Druggist began dispensing prescriptions and earning the trust of its customers, more than twenty-
14 five years before the CVS chain ever existed, but with the changing times and ever-increasing
15 demands of the health care business, the pharmacy was bought by and will transfer its
16 prescription customers to the nearby CVS; and

17 WHEREAS, Howell Smith, III, recently stated, "It's incredible, the outpouring of
18 emotion and best wishes from all of my customers, customers coming in, telling me how long

1 they've been coming here"; and

2 WHEREAS, The Pawtucket community is not only losing a longtime and dependable
3 business, but is also losing a trusted neighbor; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby thanks Howell Smith, III, and the generations of devoted pharmacists, pharmacy
6 technicians and staff at Howell Smith Druggist for eighty-two years of dedicated service to the
7 people of Pawtucket and surrounding neighborhoods; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Howell Smith, III.

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