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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF NUALA PELL

Introduced By: Senators Paiva Weed, Ruggerio, Goodwin, Pichardo, and Algieri

Date Introduced: April 16, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of a
2 revered and beneficent humanitarian of our state, Nuala O'Donnell Pell. She was the widow of
3 former United States Senator, the late Claiborne Pell, and the beloved mother of Christopher Pell
4 and his wife, Janet, Dallas Pell, and the late Herbert Pell and Julia Pell. She is also survived by
5 her five grandchildren, Tripler Pell, Nicholas Pell, Clay Pell, Christina Neal, and Eames Yates,
6 and her nine great-grandchildren, Elias, Marina and Atlas Hammoud, Oliver, Bertie and Nuala
7 Randall, Zara Neal, and Georgina and Henry Pell; and

8 WHEREAS, Nuala Pell led a glorious life. Born in New York City to the late Charles
9 Oliver and Josephine Hartford O'Donnell, Mrs. Pell was a young woman of great beauty,
10 privilege, and wealth. She was an heiress of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, studied
11 at the prestigious Bennington College in Vermont, and went sailing and holidayed with the
12 President and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy; and

13 WHEREAS, Through her grace, decency, and understated humor, Mrs. Pell was equally
14 at home at local social clubs, rallies, or in Washington's social circles, and was a true partner and
15 great asset to her husband's career; and

16 WHEREAS, Memories of this remarkable woman must also include her dedication not
17 only to her family, but also to the service of others. Mrs. Pell's social and political conscience
18 helped to transform our state with programs such as the Nuala Pell Leadership Program in Public
19 Service, and her service as a trustee of Roger Williams University, the University of Rhode
20 Island, and Salve Regina University; and

1 WHEREAS, Although born in high society, Nuala Pell fully and enthusiastically
2 recognized and embraced her responsibility to give back to the people and the state she loved.
3 Her efforts in support of the arts, education, and her humanitarian service provided a beacon of
4 hope to many in the Ocean State, and her generous contributions to the community continue to
5 impact countless lives to this day; and

6 WHEREAS, There is no doubt that Nuala Pell was a kind and consummate humanitarian,
7 who left this world a far better place because of her life's endeavors. She enriched the lives of all
8 who knew her and she will live on in the hearts and memories of the many people whom she
9 inspired and loved; now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
11 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Nuala Pell; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Christopher Pell and Dallas Pell.

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