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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**CONGRATULATING AND HONORING STATE LIBRARIAN TOM EVANS ON HIS
RETIREMENT AFTER TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF EXEMPLARY AND DEVOTED
SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Mattiello, DeSimone, Newberry, Edwards, and Lima

Date Introduced: June 16, 2016

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Tom Evans, State Librarian for the Rhode Island Secretary of State's
2 Office, is retiring after twenty-eight years of faithful service to our state. Mr. Evans is a beloved
3 fixture at the State House, widely admired for his vast breadth of knowledge about all things
4 related to Rhode Island civic affairs and Rhode Island history, and deeply appreciated for his
5 ability to find an answer to a vexing question in record speed; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans graduated from Chariho High School in 1982. He graduated from
7 the University of Rhode Island with a Bachelor's degree in 1986, and attained a Master's degree in
8 Library Science from the University of Rhode Island in 1987. Shortly thereafter, he began
9 working at the State Library for the Rhode Island Secretary of State's Office as a Reference
10 Librarian. In 1990, he was appointed by then-Secretary of State Kathleen Connell to the post of
11 State Librarian; and

12 WHEREAS, From the very beginning of his tenure at the State House, Tom Evans has
13 been a godsend to state legislators, state employees, and the general public, always ready with an
14 answer to a question about Rhode Island government and Rhode Island history, or able to find the
15 answer if extensive research was necessary. Additionally, his always calm demeanor and poised
16 presence was much appreciated by those caught in the throes of the often chaotic nature that is the
17 State House; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans has also served the State of Rhode Island since 1991, as a board
19 member of the Consortium of Rhode Island Academic and Research Libraries and the Rhode

1 Island Historical Society, and since 2006, as a Commission member of the Karla Harry
2 Commission on Libraries in Rhode Island. In his free time, Tom is an avid reader, a passionate
3 fan of the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots, enjoys travel and photography, and
4 loves doing home improvement projects in his house; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans' vast knowledge about all things Rhode Island and his tireless
6 work ethic will be sorely missed by all of his colleagues, all staff members working at the State
7 House, all members of the General Assembly, and by the many members of the general public
8 that have come to him over the years looking for, and getting, prompt answers to their questions;
9 now, therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
11 Providence Plantations hereby expresses its gratitude to Tom Evans for his twenty-eight years of
12 meritorious and distinguished service to our state and the citizens of Rhode Island. We
13 furthermore wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Tom Evans.

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