

2014 -- S 3124

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO STRONGLY  
SUPPORT A PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF IRELAND

Introduced By: Senator Michael J. McCaffrey

Date Introduced: June 18, 2014

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, Ireland and the Irish people are an ancient nation that have contributed  
2 much to western culture, particularly within the spheres of literature, art, music, dance, theater,  
3 theology and philosophy; and

4           WHEREAS, Ireland is an island nation that eventually evolved into 32 counties.  
5 Tragically, in 1922 it was divided against the wishes of a majority of the Irish people who desired  
6 a united nation, into the Irish Republic, consisting of 26 counties, and Northern Ireland,  
7 composed of the remaining six counties, and

8           WHEREAS, A peacefully united and independent Ireland would be the most effective  
9 way to grow the economy and would lead to a wealthier nation, with more influence in regional  
10 and world affairs. It would also be the best way to ensure that all citizens of Ireland have a just  
11 and equal chance at happiness and prosperity; and

12           WHEREAS, A united and independent Ireland, with a unified and independent police  
13 force and justice system, is more likely to dispense justice in an impartial and fair way, and it  
14 would be far more likely to have the trust and respect of its citizenry, including citizens from all  
15 socio-economic spheres of life; and

16           WHEREAS, The Good Friday Agreement of 1998, negotiated with strong American  
17 support, ratified by the British and Irish governments and approved by a vote with the  
18 overwhelming support of the entire island of Ireland, provides a framework by which a united  
19 Ireland might be achieved through peaceful and democratic means. It also provided for the

1 development and strengthening of North/South institutions and for there to be cross border  
2 cooperation amongst the two entities; and

3 WHEREAS, The United States and the State of Rhode Island have benefited enormously  
4 from the rich contributions Irish immigrants have made to our nation and state; now, therefore be  
5 it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
7 hereby respectfully requests that the United States Congress strongly supports a peaceful  
8 unification of Ireland using all possible diplomatic means; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation, the  
11 President and Vice President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, and the  
12 Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland, Enda Kenny.

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