

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING PATRICIA REDFEARN ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER EIGHTEEN YEARS
OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE GEORGE HAIL FREE LIBRARY
OF WARREN

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Knight, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, and
Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: January 11, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Patricia Redfearn, a Simmons College graduate with a Masters of Library 2 Science
degree, is a distinguished twenty-three year library professional who has served library 3 patrons and
the wider community with passion and tireless service in myriad positions ranging 4 from library
clerk, cataloguing, reference desk work, being in charge of organizing and 5 administrating children's
programming, and serving as the Assistant Director of the Mattapoisett 6 Free Library in Mattapoisett,
Massachusetts; and

7 WHEREAS, Ms. Redfearn had previously worked at the George Hail Free Library as a 8 part-time
Circulation Assistant. In 2002, she applied for the position of Director of the George 9 Hail Free
Library, and to her surprise and the good fortune of the residents of Warren, Ms. 10 Redfearn was
chosen to be the Library's next Director; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Redfearn has stated that during her tenure as Director, the achievement 12 she is
most proud of is her success in promoting Warren's rich historical heritage. After receiving 13 a
Providence Foundation grant in 2008 and 2009, the Library used the funds to hire an archivist 14 who
was able to locate and catalogue important historical documents that were stored at 15 numerous
locations throughout the Town; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Redfearn is also proud of the work she and her staff put into promoting 17 and
improving the Charles Whipple Greene Museum, which is located within the Library and is a 18
wonderful celebration of the Town of Warren's history. It also serves as great education resource, 19

drawing in children from field trips and educating them about the many historical artifacts located

1 within the museum; and

2 WHEREAS, Ms. Redfearn also put much effort into helping to bridge the technology gap 3 that
afflicts many of her patrons. The gap all too often makes it very difficult, if not impossible, 4 for
people to find good jobs, and often, any job at all. She has also worked hard to improve the 5 library's
programming as another tool to connect with children and help them further their 6 educational
pursuits; and

7 WHEREAS, Ms. Redfearn may be officially retiring but she still plans on being active in 8
numerous activities. She hopes to spend more time reading and investigating her family's 9 genealogy,
and spending more time in support of the historical groups in the Town of Swansea,

10 her place of residency. She also hopes to assist and support the Swansea Historical Society and 11
the Town Committee searching for funding to add an addition to the town library; now, therefore 12 be
it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby 14
congratulates Ms. Patricia Redfearn on her retirement as the Director of the George Hail Free 15
Library of Warren after eighteen years of distinguished and devoted service. We wish her good 16
health and continued success in all of her future endeavors; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to 18 transmit a
duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Patricia Redfearn.

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