

2020 -- H 8189

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ERNEST J. FINOCCHIO,  
D.V.M.

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Serpa, Kennedy, Lima, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Dr.  
2 Ernest "E.J." Finocchio, an enormously well-respected animal advocate who served as the 10th  
3 President and General Agent of the Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to  
4 Animals (RISPCA); and

5           WHEREAS, The oft quoted saying that, "We can judge the heart of a man by his  
6 treatment of animals" truly expounds the life of Dr. E.J. Finocchio who generously and  
7 consistently contributed his time and energies to the betterment of the community and animals big  
8 and small; and

9           WHEREAS, Dr. Finocchio served as the President and General Agent of the RISPCA for  
10 eighteen years, retiring in 2019. During his tenure, he passionately fought for animals and against  
11 all forms of animal cruelty; and

12           WHEREAS, In addition, Dr. Finocchio was the founder of the Marvin Fund, which was  
13 named after the disabled black Labrador retriever he had adopted. The Fund raises monies to help  
14 low-income pet owners pay for their pet's veterinary care; and

15           WHEREAS, Previous to his work with the RISPCA, Dr. Finocchio had owned and  
16 operated the New England Horse Care Center for thirty-five years; and

17           WHEREAS, Lauded by his peers and all animal lovers, Dr. Finocchio was named  
18 Veterinarian of the Year by the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Society in 2019, and had been  
19 selected as an awardee in the "Pet Partners" rescue category of the Delta Society's 2009 Beyond

1 Limits Awards; and

2 WHEREAS, Sadly, Dr. Finocchio succumbed to the cruel impact of the COVID-19  
3 pandemic, and while there is never a fitting or easy time to lose someone you love, our  
4 unprecedented current world circumstances make these loses even more difficult to bear. Dr.  
5 Finocchio truly respected and loved all life, and was adored by those who had the good fortune to  
6 be part of his time on this earth; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
8 extends deepest condolences on the passing of Ernest J. Finocchio, D.V.M.; and

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of  
11 Cruelty to Animals.

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