

2021 -- H 5169

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM A.
CASTRO

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Kazarian, Henries, Amore,
Filippi, and Ajello

Date Introduced: January 26, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the
2 Honorable William A. Castro, a well-respected former Rhode Island State Senator, and the
3 beloved husband of the late Lois Ambrosino, devoted father of Kimberly DeCosta and her
4 husband, David, and the very proud grandfather of Nicholas William and Camille Lucia; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Taunton, Massachusetts, Mr. Castro was a son of the late Manuel
6 and Rose Castro, and the brother of Barbara Martin, and the late Thomas, Robert, and George
7 Castro. He grew up in the Fox Point section of Providence where he attended the Cleary School,
8 and was a graduate of St. Raphael Academy; and

9 WHEREAS, Subsequent to moving to the City of East Providence, Mr. Castro began
10 what would become a life-long devotion to public service. In November of 1966, he was elected
11 to the Rhode Island Senate representing constituents in District 42. Well-respected by his fellow
12 Senators, he was elected by unanimous consent to serve as President Pro Tempore from 1979-
13 1982, at which time he retired; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition to his tenure in the Senate, the Honorable Bill Castro was
15 employed as manager for the traffic development division of Bonanza Bus Lines, and was the
16 director of sales for the former Providence Reds Hockey Club; and

17 WHEREAS, Upon leaving the State Senate, the Honorable Bill Castro was appointed as
18 the Administrator of the Rhode Island Workers' Compensation Court by Governor J. Joseph
19 Garrahy, a position he held until 1990. He was also devoted to his faith and was a long-time

1 parishioner of St. Francis Xavier Church, where he served as a Trustee and a member of the
2 Finance Committee, and as the General Chairman of the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal; and

3 WHEREAS, Always proud of his Portuguese heritage, Mr. Castro was awarded the
4 medal of solidarity and Commodore of the Order of Prince Henry the Navigator by the President
5 of the Republic of Portugal. He was also actively involved in a panoply of altruistic community
6 organizations including the Holy Ghost Beneficial Brotherhood, Prince Henry Club and Amigos
7 da Cavaqueira. He was an avid baseball fan and had served as the former Assistant District
8 Administrator for Little League Baseball Inc., as well as past President of the East Providence
9 Central Little League; and

10 WHEREAS, The Honorable Bill Castro consistently demonstrated an abiding dedication
11 to serving the best interests of his community and our State and he will be dearly missed by all
12 who had the good fortune to be part of his extraordinary life; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
14 offers its sincere condolences on the passing of the Honorable William A. Castro; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Kimberly DeCosta and Family.

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