STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH J. SOLOMON, SR.

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Shanley, Bennett, Serpa, Vella-Wilkinson, Filippi, Kennedy, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: May 25, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness and sorrow that this House has learned of the passing of the Honorable Joseph Solomon, Sr., beloved husband and soulmate of the love of his life, Cynthia Solomon for thirty-six years, the cherished and very proud father of our friend and colleague, the Honorable Joseph Solomon, Jr., and the highly respected former Councilman and Mayor of the City of Warwick; and

WHEREAS, Born in Providence, Joe Solomon was the son of Rose Solomon and the late Samuel Solomon, and the brother of RoseMarie Fontaine and her husband, Russell, Nancy Armoush and her husband, Robert, Carol Paiva, Linda Maroun and her husband, Kenneth, and Marilyn Solomon Bruzzese and her husband, Raymond. He was a graduate of Classical High School and received an Accounting degree, Magna Cum Laude, from Providence College. Continuing his education, he attained his Juris Doctor from New England School of Law in Boston; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon had made his home in the City of Warwick for more than four decades. He served the City he loved as a nine-term councilman, with four terms as President, and in 2018, was elected as the 15th Mayor of Warwick. He had also served as a municipal judge, and was a business owner, accountant, and successful lawyer; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as Mayor and Councilman, the Honorable Joe Solomon was a true champion of fiscal responsibility, economic development, superior City services, and environmental protection, and expanding accessibility to Warwick's beautiful coastline, as well as
the improvement of infrastructure and municipal buildings in the City. He was particularly proud of productively leading the City through the initial year of COVID with a budget surplus; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was described as "a self-made man who came from humble beginnings and built several successful businesses" and a man who had "developed a reputation as a tough but fair leader and a shrewd fiscal manager" who was known to have "a soft spot for animals, the less-advantaged, and the elderly"; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Mr. Solomon maintained close family ties with his extended family including Donald and Maryanne Solomon, Jeannette Solomon, and Raphael Azar, Sisters Catherine and Yasmine Azar, Susan (Azar) Farhart, former General Treasurer Anthony J. Solomon and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his in-laws, Angela and Walter Santos, and his aunts and uncles, Sarah Solomon, John Solomon, Sr., and Jean and Tanous Azar; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Joe Solomon had a huge heart and a warm smile, and was blessed with a large and loving family that he adored. He epitomized a dedicated civic servant who gave more than two decades of his time and talents to the betterment of the people of Warwick and he will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends its heartfelt sympathy to the Solomon Family on the passing of the Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Sr.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Cynthia Solomon, Mrs. Rose Solomon, and the Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.