

2022 -- H 8060

LC005595

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF MARK M. SAWOSKI, PH.D.

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, McGaw, Donovan, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Bennett, and Fogarty

Date Introduced: March 29, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Dr. Mark M.
2 Sawoski, the devoted husband of Sue Eckert for more than thirty years, the beloved father of
3 Matthew and Catherine, and a dedicated and distinguished Professor of International Relations at
4 Roger Williams University for thirty-five years; and

5 WHEREAS, Raised in Morris Plains, New Jersey, Dr. Sawoski was the son of Dorothy
6 and the late Henry Sawoski. He received his undergraduate and three graduate degrees from Tufts
7 University, including a Ph.D. in international relations from the Fletcher School at Tufts; and

8 WHEREAS, At the beginning of his distinguished career, Dr. Sawoski served as a public
9 opinion expert at the US State Department in Washington, and taught at Tufts and the University
10 of New Hampshire. In 1987, he became a Professor of International Relations at Roger Williams
11 University, where he was instrumental in establishing a multi-disciplinary international relations
12 major, and in 1991, he held a senior position on European security issues in the Pentagon and
13 Foggy Bottom before returning to Roger Williams; and

14 WHEREAS, During his tenure at Roger Williams University, Dr. Sawoski's academic
15 research focused on the foreign policy beliefs of national political elites. He taught hundreds of
16 students about Russia, China, international law, and international negotiations, and was a member
17 of the Council on Foreign Relations and a regular participant in the CFR's Boston roundtable; and

18 WHEREAS, In the mid-2000s, Dr. Sawoski joined forces with faculty from the School of
19 Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation to found the Center for Macro-Projects and
20 Diplomacy. Most recently, he had been active in town politics and chaired the Town of Little

1 Compton's Planning Board. He enjoyed cooking and was an avid sailor, with moorings for his
2 sloop, Reprise, in both Newport harbor and Little Compton, where he was a member of the
3 Sakonnet Yacht Club; and

4 WHEREAS, Mark Sawoski leaves a legacy of excellence in teaching that has had a
5 profound impact on decades of students at Roger Williams University as well as the friendship
6 and respect of the University's faculty, staff, and alumni. He was blessed with a family who
7 supported and loved him dearly and he will be missed by all; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
9 extends deepest condolences on the passing of Dr. Mark M. Sawoski; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Sue Eckert and Family.

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