

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF PHILIP F. CALIRI

Introduced By: Representatives C Lima, Baginski, Potter, Fenton-Fung, Handy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, McNamara, Filippi, and Kennedy

Date Introduced: June 07, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Philip
2 Caliri, a devoted public servant and retired Cranston police officer; and

3 WHEREAS, Philip Caliri was the son of the late Mafalda and Antonio Caliri, a self-made
4 man who immigrated to the United States by himself at the age of sixteen in a desire to build a
5 better life in America; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Caliri joined the Cranston Police Department in the late 1950s, and
7 played a vital role in creating and mentoring his fellow police officers in what was a precursor to
8 a modern special victims unit. Officer Caliri was well-known for working on the most difficult
9 cases and was highly regarded for his ability to solve crimes and close cases; and

10 WHEREAS, Officer Caliri was also passionate about reaching out to youngsters and
11 educating them about self-protection and the role of the law in their lives. He became the
12 founding officer of the Youth Liaison Program in the City of Cranston, where he traveled
13 frequently to speak at schools and became well-known and beloved as “Officer Friendly”; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Caliri was a man of many talents who served his community in
15 numerous capacities in addition to his position as a police officer. He excelled as an announcer
16 and was a newscaster on WLKW late night radio. He was a lector at St. Bartholomew’s Church,
17 and for more than forty years, he announced parties’ dinner reservations as a Maitre d’ at Twin
18 Oaks restaurant. He also collected fine suits and ties, and once modeled menswear for Seventh
19 Avenue; and

20 WHEREAS, In his personal life, Mr. Caliri pressed hundreds of pounds at the gym,

1 enjoyed riding a motorcycle down old country roads and proudly once drove a Lamborghini. He
2 also loved music and eating Italian food; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Caliri leaves behind his wife, Carole Caliri, and his daughters and their
4 spouses, Sherry Ferdinandi and her husband, Steven, Ingrid Caliri-Juchnik and her husband,
5 Steve, and Kim Cavalloro and her husband, Michael, and his four step-children, Deborah Round
6 and her husband, Daniel, Kimberly Johnson, Eric Johnson and Richard Johnson. He also leaves
7 behind his former wife, Ingeborg Caliri, eight grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, three
8 great-grandchildren, and countless friends; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Caliri will be long remembered by all who knew him for his untiring
10 service to the citizens of Cranston and the State of Rhode Island, and for the abundance of love
11 and service he gave to his family and friends; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
13 expresses its deepest condolences on the passing of Philip Caliri; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Carole Caliri and Family.

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