

2020 -- H 8156

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LC005639  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

THANKING THE HONORABLE SPEAKER NICHOLAS A. MATTIELLO FOR HIS  
FOURTEEN YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF RHODE  
ISLAND AND HOUSE DISTRICT 15 IN CRANSTON

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Casimiro, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, Speaker Nicholas A. Mattiello was born on May 16, 1963, and is a life-long  
2 Rhode Islander. He attended La Salle Academy, graduating in 1981, Boston College, graduating  
3 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1985, a 1988 graduate of the Suffolk  
4 University School of Law and is a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association. Speaker  
5 Mattiello is the devoted husband of Mary Ann and is the proud father of two sons, Nicholas and  
6 Anthony; and

7           WHEREAS, Speaker Mattiello was first elected to the Rhode Island House of  
8 Representatives in 2006, to represent the Cranston constituents of House District 15. Speaker  
9 Mattiello was chosen by his colleagues in February of 2010 to serve as the House Majority  
10 Leader and in March of 2014, was elected Speaker. He was subsequently re-elected Speaker in  
11 January of 2015, 2017 and 2019; and

12           WHEREAS, Under his leadership and guidance, Speaker Mattiello's focus was on  
13 growing the Rhode Island economy, improving the job climate in our State, and providing tax  
14 relief to our hard-working citizens. In recognition of his hard work in reducing the State's Car  
15 Tax, the Tax Foundation in October of 2018, presented him with the Outstanding Achievement in  
16 State Tax Reform Award; and

17           WHEREAS, During Speaker Mattiello's tenure, the Rhode Island corporate tax rate was  
18 reduced to the lowest rate in the Northeast; the income tax was eliminated for many Social  
19 Security recipients and other retirees; and the sales tax was eliminated on utility bills previously

1 paid by businesses; and

2 WHEREAS, Under Speaker Mattiello's leadership, the minimum wage has been raised  
3 four times, and Rhode Islanders will receive sick-leave benefits for the first time. Speaker  
4 Mattiello has always been a strong supporter of public education, and thanks to his guidance, the  
5 State increased its support of school construction, career and technical education, all-day  
6 kindergarten, pre-kindergarten, and higher education; and

7 WHEREAS, The budgets passed during Speaker Mattiello's tenure increased support for  
8 the developmentally disabled community, hospitals and nursing homes. In recognition of Speaker  
9 Mattiello's tireless support and advocacy on behalf of medically fragile Rhode Islanders, the RI  
10 Partnership presented him with its 2018 Legislative Champion Award; and

11 WHEREAS, Thanks to support from Speaker Mattiello, a Rhode Island Constitutional  
12 Amendment was passed restoring jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission over the Rhode Island  
13 General Assembly. In addition, many other good government laws were passed under Speaker  
14 Mattiello's leadership including the elimination of the "Master Lever", campaign finance lobbying  
15 reform laws, and the posting of all financial disclosure statements of public officials online; and

16 WHEREAS, Speaker Mattiello also worked tirelessly to address the Opioid crisis, to  
17 strengthen school safety measures, and to take away guns from domestic abusers and from those  
18 persons deemed to be a danger to themselves and others. He sponsored a law to create threat  
19 assessment teams in schools to identify potentially threatening behavior, and was honored by the  
20 Coalition Against Domestic Violence for the creation of a permanent funding stream that  
21 addresses domestic and dating violence; and

22 WHEREAS, Speaker Mattiello is well-known by his colleagues for his love of animals  
23 and his passionate support for laws to greater protect them. He has been honored by the Humane  
24 Society and the Providence Animal Shelter for his leadership and hard work in ensuring the  
25 passage of stronger laws to protect animals; and

26 WHEREAS, Speaker Mattiello is a member of the St. Mary's Feast Society and the  
27 Oaklawn Grange. He received the 2017 Man of the Year Award from the Italo-American Club.  
28 He previously coached baseball in the Cranston Western Little League and the Cranston-Johnston  
29 Regional Catholic Middle School; now, therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby thanks Speaker Nicholas A.  
31 Mattiello for his fourteen years of honorable and distinguished service to the citizens of Rhode  
32 Island and the Cranston constituents of District 15. Speaker Mattiello's tenure as Speaker from  
33 2014 to 2020 will be long-remembered for its many accomplishments. We wish Speaker  
34 Mattiello good health, happiness and continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
3 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Speaker Nicholas A. Mattiello.

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