

2022 -- H 8209

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE  
NORMAN Y. MINETA

Introduced By: Representatives Fenton-Fung, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Kennedy,  
Tanzi, Cortvriend, Fellela, Ajello, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: May 04, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the  
2 Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, a former 10-term member of the United States House of  
3 Representatives, and the first Japanese American Cabinet Member who served under Presidents  
4 Bill Clinton and George W. Bush; and

5           WHEREAS, Norman Mineta was born in San Jose, California, the youngest of five  
6 children. As a young boy, he was interned with his family during World War II, when the unjust  
7 and tragic directive to remove Americans of Japanese ancestry en masse to Relocation Centers for  
8 the duration of the war was instituted; and

9           WHEREAS, Overcoming all obstacles, Mr. Mineta was elected to serve the people of  
10 San Jose, California, as their Representative in the United States Congress, a position he held  
11 from 1975 through 1995. During his more than two decades in the House, he championed bills  
12 for transportation improvements, economic development, trade, the environment, civil rights and  
13 science and technology projects, and in 1988, co-sponsored legislation authorizing payments and  
14 formal apologies to the survivors and heirs of those who had been incarcerated in the WWII  
15 internment camps; and

16           WHEREAS, In 1995, Mr. Mineta resigned his seat in the House to become an executive  
17 at Lockheed Martin, and also served as Chair of the National Civil Aviation Review Commission.  
18 In 2000, he was named Secretary of Commerce by President Clinton, and became the first  
19 Japanese American cabinet official. Following the next Presidential election, he was reappointed

1 to the Cabinet, serving President George W. Bush as Secretary of Transportation, and was the  
2 only democratic appointee in an otherwise republican cabinet; and

3 WHEREAS, On the infamous and tragic 9/11, as terrorists attacked America, Mr. Mineta  
4 was part of the team assembled with Vice President Cheney to respond to the emergency; and

5 WHEREAS, When Mr. Mineta finally resigned from the Cabinet in 2006, he was the  
6 longest-serving Secretary in his department's 39-year history and was awarded the Presidential  
7 Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor; and

8 WHEREAS, The Honorable Norman Mineta demonstrated a standard for excellence in  
9 public service that inspired this nation and he will forever be remembered for his extraordinary  
10 leadership during a tumultuous hour in our country's history, and for his deep commitment to  
11 serving the citizens of United States and the world community; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
13 expresses deepest sympathy on the passing of the Honorable Norman Mineta; 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 Danealia Brantner and Family.

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