

2023 -- H 6266

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING LAWRENCE VERRIA ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER FORTY YEARS OF
DEDICATED SERVICE EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE STATE OF RHODE
ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Casimiro, Craven, Shekarchi, Blazejewski,
Chippendale, Kennedy, Edwards, Ajello, Tanzi, and Fellela
Date Introduced: April 06, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, To the very good fortune of many a North Kingstown student, Lawrence
2 Verria, better known as “Larry” to his many friends, followed his heart and began on the path to a
3 career in education. He attained his Bachelor of Arts degree in History and his Master’s degree in
4 Educational Leadership and Administration from Rhode Island College; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1983, Mr. Verria began his career in education as an English teacher with
6 the Warren School Department and in 1985, found his niche in the Social Studies Department at
7 North Kingstown High School (NKHS); and

8 WHEREAS, Over the course of his thirty-eight years at NKHS, Mr. Verria gained the
9 respect of both his students and colleagues and ultimately earned the position of Social Studies
10 Department Chair; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to his teaching, Mr. Verria authored a book “The Kissing
12 Sailor”, which was published by the United States Naval Institute Press, and tells the true story
13 behind the famous kissing sailor photo from “V-J Day” in 1945; and

14 WHEREAS, Also active in the community, Mr. Verria was a soccer coach for the Bristol
15 Youth Soccer League for nine years, managed the East Bay Fast Pitch Girls Softball League for
16 eleven years, and was a spokesperson for the Bristol Playground Restoration Committee; and

17 WHEREAS, Extraordinary people never retire, they just begin a new chapter of their
18 lives. Such is the case with Larry Verria who, by virtue of his dedication to young people and his
19 many accomplishments, serves as a model for all our educational leaders; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
2 congratulates and thanks Lawrence Verria for his forty years educating Rhode Island's young
3 people. We moreover wish him good health and much happiness during his well-earned
4 retirement; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Lawrence Verria.

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