

2024 -- H 8163

LC005929

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RAYMOND M.  
DIPASQUALE

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, Azzinaro, Shekarchi, Blazejewski,  
Speakman, Chippendale, Kennedy, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, and  
Date Introduced: April 11, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Raymond  
2 DiPasquale, whose laudable 50-year career in education included serving as President of three  
3 community colleges; and

4 WHEREAS, Initially, Mr. DiPasquale served as President of Middlesex Community  
5 College in 1974, but the majority of his career was spent in the City of Springfield, where he was  
6 elected to the City Council, was a member of the School Board, and in 1979, joined Springfield  
7 Technical Community College (STCC) as Director of Admissions; and

8 WHEREAS, Rising through the ranks at STCC, Mr. DiPasquale was named Assistant to  
9 the President in 1982, and was subsequently named Dean of Admissions/Public Relations. From  
10 1983 until 1992, he was responsible for the operation of myriad offices including the Admissions  
11 Office, Public Relations, Media Communications, College Publications, Transfer Office and  
12 Placement Office. In 1992, he was named Vice President of Enrollment Management/Student  
13 Affairs, and served as a member of the President's executive cabinet; and

14 WHEREAS, From 1998 through 2006, Mr. DiPasquale served as Vice President for  
15 Enrollment Management & Student Affairs at SUNY Brockport in New York; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. DiPasquale began his first term as President of the Community College  
17 of Rhode Island in 2006, and over the next decade, also served the people of Rhode Island as the  
18 Commissioner of Higher Education for the State, and on the State Board of Education. In 2013,  
19 he became interim Education Commissioner when the boards overseeing colleges and K-12

1 schools were merged; and

2 WHEREAS, After leaving CCRI, Mr. DiPasquale was hired as President of Clinton  
3 Community College in Plattsburgh, New York, before taking over as the 7th President of  
4 Massasoit Community College in August 2021, a position he held until his passing; and

5 WHEREAS, Over the course of his illustrious career in higher education, Ray DiPasquale  
6 was honored with numerous awards and recognitions including a Lifetime Achievement Award  
7 from the New England Board of Higher Education, an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from  
8 the New England Institute of Technology, the Community Humanitarian Award from the Rhode  
9 Island DaVinci Center, and had numerous scholarships named in his honor; and

10 WHEREAS, A thoughtful and dedicated leader who left a lasting impact on the  
11 institutions and students he served, Ray DiPasquale earned the respect of his peers, colleagues,  
12 and friends, and he is dearly missed; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
14 extends deepest condolences and sympathy on the passing of Raymond DiPasquale; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Michelle Badger, Vice President of  
18 Institutional Advancement, Massasoit Community College.

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