

2021 -- H 5661

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**HONORING SONIA GRACE ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS CITY
CLERK FOR THE CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS**

Introduced By: Representatives Giraldo, McLaughlin, Barros, and Vella-Wilkinson

Date Introduced: February 23, 2021

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Sonia Grace has deep ties to the City of Central Falls. She is a resident of
2 the City, and she and her husband, Tim, are raising their five children there. Her parents were
3 originally from Portugal. The family moved to the United States when she was fifteen and
4 eventually made their home in Central Falls; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2013, when James Diossa was elected Mayor of Central Falls, he asked
6 Mrs. Grace to serve as his Chief of Staff. At the time, the City was in turmoil, government fraud
7 and mismanagement had sent the City into bankruptcy proceedings and a state takeover; and

8 WHEREAS, A 1998 Brown University graduate, Mrs. Grace is also fluent in Portuguese
9 and Spanish, which enabled her to connect with the many diverse communities that comprise the
10 City of Central Falls; and

11 WHEREAS, To shake up day-to-day operations, Mayor Diossa subsequently named Mrs.
12 Grace to the position of City Clerk. In addition, she is Vice Chairwoman of The Central Falls
13 School District Board of Trustees; and

14 WHEREAS, Sonia Grace's commitment and unflinching optimism for moving the City of
15 Central Falls forward has had a positive impact on the lives of those who live in the "Come-Back
16 City" and she is deserving of our emulation and acknowledgement; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
18 recognizes and thanks Sonia Grace for her dedication and service to the people of the City of
19 Central Falls and the State; and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
- 2 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Sonia Grace.

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