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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010**

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**H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF  
ROBERT FRANCIS TASCA, SR.**

Introduced By: Representatives Marcello, Williams, Murphy, Lima, and Giannini

Date Introduced: January 13, 2010

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this House of Representatives has learned of the  
2 passing of Robert Francis Tasca, Sr., a well-respected and long-time resident of the community of  
3 Hope and icon in the automotive industry; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Providence, Rhode Island, Mr. Tasca was the son of the late Carlo  
5 Tasca and Maria Colavecchio. He met and married his beloved wife, Josephine, and was the  
6 father of Robert Tasca and his wife, Jayne, Carl Tasca and his wife, Luna, David Tasca and his  
7 wife, Janice, and Patricia Tasca DeCristofaro and her husband, Nicholas, Jr. He was also the  
8 devoted grandfather of Robert, Jaime, Michael, Carl, Carrie, David, Christie, Nicole, Rebecca,  
9 and Nicholas, and the great-grandfather of Robert, Austin, Cameron, Brooke, and Marc; and

10           WHEREAS, Robert Tasca, Sr. began his illustrious career with the Ford Motor Company  
11 in 1943, working at a local dealership. In 1953, he purchased his first dealership, located in  
12 Bristol, Rhode Island, and over the next decade, he became a trusted advisor to Henry Ford II;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, New England's often-harsh weather, in the guise of Hurricane Carol,  
15 compelled Mr. Tasca to move the dealership to its landmark East Providence location after the  
16 Bristol facility was destroyed. The move proved to be advantageous. In the 1960s, the business  
17 grew to become the second largest Ford dealership in the nation; and

18           WHEREAS, In 1971, Mr. Tasca opened a Lincoln Mercury dealership in Seekonk,  
19 Massachusetts, and, as with all his endeavors, the enterprise proved to be a winner. In 1986, his

1 Lincoln Mercury dealership attained the largest volume and highest customer satisfaction level of  
2 any Lincoln Mercury dealership in the world, and coined the catch phrase “None bigger, none  
3 better”; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Tasca was also devoted to various motor sports. He was a lifelong  
5 friend of Carroll Shelby, whom he helped to assemble the Cobra. He rose to national prominence  
6 as a drag racer and helped to create the Ford Thunderbolt drag racing car. He sponsored  
7 numerous hot rod teams and events, winning several national events and titles; and

8 WHEREAS, Robert Tasca, Sr.’s business acumen and accomplishments are indelibly  
9 imprinted in the minds and hearts of countless Rhode Islanders and there is no doubt that he has  
10 left Rhode Island, and America, a far better place because of his life’s endeavors; now, therefore  
11 be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
13 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the entire Tasca Family on the  
14 passing of Robert Francis Tasca, Sr. He will be dearly missed and forever remembered by this  
15 legislature and the citizens of the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Josephine Tasca and Family.

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