

2022 -- H 7978

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF LEON M. KAYARIAN

Introduced By: Representatives Fenton-Fung, Cardillo, Potter, C Lima, Handy,  
McNamara, Slater, Diaz, Shekarchi, and Blazejewski

Date Introduced: March 15, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Leon M.  
2 Kayarian, the husband of the late Joyce Mowry, and Joan Kelly Kayarian. He was the father of  
3 Donna Leigh Kayarian-Chiacchia and her husband, Thomas, Jason Kayarian, Jill Kayarian Shina  
4 and her husband, Dr. Rani Shina, and the late Dayton John Kayarian. He was also the very proud  
5 grandfather of Karson and Noah Kayarian, and Hannah and Emma Shina; and

6           WHEREAS, Born in the City of Woonsocket, Mr. Kayarian was a son of the late Harry  
7 and Mary Kayarian, and the brother of the late Norman Kayarian. In addition to his immediate  
8 family, he is survived by his beloved caregivers and friends, Russell Gelfuso and Ivonne Aleman  
9 who cooked for him each night, helped clean his home on Sundays, and shared his love of  
10 automobiles; and

11           WHEREAS, A charismatic and brilliant businessman, Mr. Kayarian began his career as a  
12 salesman and grew to become a renowned Rhode Island entrepreneur and owner of numerous  
13 businesses over a career that spanned more than seventy years, most notably the Dayton Tire  
14 Warehouse with twenty-five stores along the East Coast; and

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Kayarian was a true original who enjoyed lunching at Twin Oaks, the  
16 Old Canteen, and other local favorites, developed programs that were emulated by Fortune 100  
17 companies, had an unrivaled passion for car-collecting and a license to fly a plane, and even ran  
18 for Governor in 2014; and

19           WHEREAS, The most fitting tribute to the extraordinary life of Leon Kayarian is a  
20 celebration of a life well and fully lived. He will be dearly missed and most assuredly

1 remembered; now, therefore be it

2           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
3 extends deepest condolences on the passing of Leon M. Kayarian; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
5 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Joan Kelly Kayarian, Donna Leigh  
6 Kayarian-Chiacchia and Family, Jason Kayarian, and Jill Kayarian Shina and Family.

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