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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

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

**EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY ON THE TRAGIC LOSS OF POLAND'S
PRESIDENT LECH KACZYNSKI AND NINETY-FIVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO
PERISHED IN A CATASTROPHIC JET CRASH NEAR THE KATYN FOREST IN RUSSIA**

Introduced By: Representative Jan Malik

Date Introduced: April 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 untimely death of the Republic of Poland's President Lech Kaczynski and his wife, First Lady
3 Maria Kaczynski, along with ninety-four men and women in an accident that many have called
4 "Poland's worst disaster since World War II"; and

5 WHEREAS, Early on the morning of April 10th, 2010, a Russian jetliner carrying
6 Poland's top military, political, and church leaders crashed, killing all onboard in one of the
7 saddest tragedies in the history of Poland; and

8 WHEREAS, Flags across Poland have been lowered as Polish-Americans and people
9 from around the world join Poland in mourning their overwhelming loss; and

10 WHEREAS, The esteemed group led by President Kaczynski was traveling to a
11 ceremony commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Massacre. Inconceivably, the flight
12 crashed just a short drive from the site of the Katyn forest massacre where almost 22,000 Polish
13 officers were killed under orders from Stalin during World War II; and

14 WHEREAS, President Kaczynski will forever be remembered for his extraordinary
15 leadership, patriotism, and his deep commitment to defending freedom and serving the people of
16 Poland and the world community; and

17 WHEREAS, The citizens of Rhode Island and, indeed, millions of Americans across the
18 country grieve over this profoundly heartrending event. The world is profoundly stirred by the
19 loss of these public servants, and we mourn as well the contributions they might have made to

1 mankind. They will be deeply missed; now, therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
3 Providence Plantations hereby offers our deepest sympathy and prayers to the families and
4 friends, to the people of Poland, and to Rhode Island's Polish-American community on the
5 untimely loss of the Republic of Poland's President Lech Kaczynski and First Lady Maria
6 Kaczynski, and the ninety-four other men and women who lost their lives; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Consulate General of the Republic of
9 Poland in New York, and the Chair of the Rhode Island Polish-American Commission.

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