

**2020 -- H 8151**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020**

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

**HONORING REPRESENTATIVE DENNIS M. CANARIO FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE  
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, and Filippi

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, On November 6, 2012, the Honorable Dennis M. Canario was elected to the  
2 Rhode Island House of Representatives in District 71, encompassing Little Compton, Portsmouth,  
3 and Tiverton. Over the ensuing eight years, he admirably served his constituents and the State of  
4 Rhode Island with distinction and integrity; and

5           WHEREAS, Dennis Canario attended St. Andrews' School, attained his Associate's  
6 degree in Criminal Justice from Roger Williams University, and was employed as a Police  
7 Detective with the Portsmouth Police Department until his retirement. In 2004, he won his first  
8 foray into politics, becoming a member of the Portsmouth Town Council, where he subsequently  
9 served as Chair for two years; and

10           WHEREAS, On November 6th of 2012, the Honorable Dennis Canario was elected to the  
11 Rhode Island House of Representatives, and during the following three elections, his constituency  
12 returned him to the House where he earned the respect of his colleagues, the gratitude of his  
13 constituents, and the unqualified admiration of all who have had the pleasure to work by his side;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, During his tenure in the House, Representative Canario served as the First  
16 Vice-Chair of the House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare, and as a member of the  
17 House Committee on Judiciary, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Special  
18 Legislative Commission on Defense Economy Planning, and was named a Deputy Majority  
19 Leader in April of 2014; and

1           WHEREAS, Sponsoring numerous bills throughout his years in the House,  
2 Representative Canario introduced legislation which included the Red Flag bill, legislation that  
3 increased the penalties for bad contractors, and a bill to exempt disabled residents from ID card  
4 fees, all of which were successfully enacted. He also championed successful legislation to address  
5 the epidemic of opioid overdose deaths, create a special legislative commission to study the  
6 effects of legalizing recreational marijuana, and a bill that requires medical treatment facilities to  
7 provide discharge plans for patients with nonsubstance abuse-related mental health disorders, to  
8 name but a few; and

9           WHEREAS, In addition to his many hours at the State House, Representative Canario is  
10 the founder of the Portsmouth Police Cadet Explorer Program, was the Portsmouth Senior  
11 Citizens Advocate from 1997 to 2001, and is a past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus,  
12 Rooney Council; and

13           WHEREAS, A truly valued member and well-liked member of the House, the Honorable  
14 Dennis Canario has consistently demonstrated an abiding dedication to serving the best interests  
15 of his constituents and he will be greatly missed in the House Chamber; now, therefore be it

16           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
17 honors Representative Dennis M. Canario as he concludes his service in the Rhode Island  
18 General Assembly. We moreover thank him for a job well done, and extend our sincere wishes  
19 for a long and happy retirement with his wife, Amy, and his children and grandchildren; and be it  
20 further

21           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Dennis M. Canario.

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