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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ROSE M. LAVOIE

Introduced By: Senator P Fogarty

Date Introduced: January 19, 2017

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Rose M. LaVoie, beloved wife of Kenneth F. "Skip" LaVoie, passed away  
2   on Monday, January 9, 2017. She was born in Burrillville, Rhode Island, a daughter of the late  
3   Ernest J. and Eleanor Lange. She was also the devoted mother of Kevin A. LaVoie and his wife  
4   Reena, Keith A. Lavoie, and the late Kenneth F. LaVoie, Jr.; and

5           WHEREAS, Rose and her husband, Skip, moved to Chepachet in 1946. In 1964, she and  
6   her husband took over the management of the Purple Cat Restaurant, an establishment that had  
7   been run since 1929 by her husband's parents. Together, they owned and operated the Purple Cat  
8   for forty-three years, providing their delicious and wholesome food and becoming a beloved  
9   fixture within the community. For her outstanding service in the restaurant industry, Rose was  
10   awarded the lifetime Achievement Award from the Rhode Island Hospitality and Tourism  
11   Association in 2001. In 1984, she received the "Women of the Year" award from the North  
12   Providence Business and Professional Women's Club; and

13          WHEREAS, Rose was very active in community affairs and worked tirelessly to make  
14   Rhode Island a better place to live. In 1980, she was named the "Volunteer of the Year" by the  
15   NCNHS for Outstanding Community Service. Rose was also a longtime preservation activist,  
16   serving on many boards and commissions. As president of the Gloucester Heritage Society, she  
17   played a critical role in achieving funds to restore the Reuben Mason House. For her efforts in  
18   this regard, she received the Antoinette Downing Award from the Rhode Island Historic  
19   Preservation Commission and the Governor's Regional Tourism Award; and

20          WHEREAS, Rose also received many additional awards honoring of her distinguished

1 professional career. She was a member of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council and in 2004,  
2 was the recipient of the William Blackstone Society Award from the Council. She was a founding  
3 member and Past President of the Gloucester Business Association and was given the Joan M.  
4 Scarpio Award for Dedicated Service to Club and Community. She was also the recipient of the  
5 GBA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004, and received the Thomas Wilson Dorr Award in  
6 2009 from the Gloucester Heritage Society as Citizen Extraordinaire. In 2012, she was named the  
7 Citizen of the Year by the Chepachet Grange, and co-chaired the Gloucester Bicentennial  
8 Celebration Committee, and was chairwoman of the 4th of July Ancients and Horribles Parade  
9 from 1986 to 1991; and

10 WHEREAS, In her spare time, Rose enjoyed spending summers at her home in Boothbay  
11 Harbor, Maine. She also enjoyed reading, doing crossword puzzles, attending Gloucester Town  
12 Council meetings, and doting on her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to her husband and sons, Rose leaves behind her brother Edward  
14 F. Lange, and sisters Doris A. Hill and Norma M. O'Leary. She was predeceased by her siblings  
15 Ernest F. Lange, Jr., and the late Mary F. Gallagher. She also leaves behind her grandchildren  
16 Kenneth F. LaVoie III, Tara N. Kruzewski, and Kelsea Rose LaVoie, and her great-  
17 grandchildren, Elissa Rose LaVoie, Joseph Kruzewski, Johanna Kruzewski, and Landon LaVoie;  
18 now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
20 hereby expresses its condolences to the LaVoie Family on the passing of Rose M. LaVoie; and be  
21 it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
23 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Kenneth F. LaVoie.

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