

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE TRAGIC AND UNTIMELY PASSING  
OF JOCELYN AZEVEDO DOCOUTO

Introduced By: Senator Jonathon Acosta

Date Introduced: February 01, 2024

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with deepest sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of  
2 Jocelyn DoCouto, the owner of JaeSlayed/Beatbymaggz Studio in Pawtucket, who was tragically  
3 and suddenly murdered as she left the business she had worked so hard to grow, and leaving two  
4 young children without their mom; and

5 WHEREAS, Jocelyn was a prominent role model throughout her community. Her  
6 parents, Adeline Azevedo and Tito DoCouto, and much of her family, had hailed from Senegal  
7 and Cape Verde. At the age of 11, she had first taught herself how to braid in front of a mirror,  
8 and later at the age of 13, she began working in a local barber shop; and

9 WHEREAS, Determined to open her own business, Jocelyn started her salon with a  
10 cosmetologist as the manager in order to obtain a license, and later successfully worked to  
11 deregulate the industry, making braiding, a generational and practical African-style art-form, into  
12 her dream come true; and

13 WHEREAS, With talent and determination, Jocelyn became not only a successful  
14 business owner and hair stylist but expanded as a Digital Creator and Influencer, becoming a  
15 walking inspiration and role model to many in the community; and

16 WHEREAS, Most recently, Jocelyn had launched JaeSlayed Haircare Products which  
17 catered to women, men and children with natural hair; and

18 WHEREAS, In addition to her children and parents, Jocelyn was the sister of Tito  
19 DoCouto, Jr., Jamian DoCouto, Candle DoCouto, D'Andre DoCouto, Genneva DaSilva, and

1 Jaleen Azevedo; and

2 WHEREAS, Jocelyn DoCouto was a devoted and proud mother to Shailynn Ross and  
3 Preston DoCouto and a beloved daughter, who was working to achieve financial independence  
4 for her family and she will be dearly missed; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby extends deepest  
6 condolences to the family and friends of Jocelyn DoCouto; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
8 transmit duly certified copy of this resolution to Shailynn Ross and Preston DoCouto.

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