

**2018 -- S 2899**

LC005742

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018**

**SENATE RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SAMUEL A. MILLER**

Introduced By: Senators Ruggiero, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Gallo, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: May 17, 2018

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Samuel  
2 A. Miller, the devoted husband of Anne Boardman Miller, and the beloved father of Alex and  
3 Owen Miller; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Providence and raised on the East Side of the City, Sam Miller was  
5 a son of Dian Kaufman Reynolds and the late Daniel B. Miller, and the brother of our good friend  
6 and colleague Senator Joshua Miller, Adam Miller, and the late Zachary Miller. He was the  
7 brother-in-law of Nancy Miller, the uncle of Nicholas Miller, and the step-son of the late Edwin  
8 Reynolds; and

9           WHEREAS, From an early age, Mr. Miller acquired an interest in the arts from his  
10 mother who worked as a stage manager at Trinity Repertory Company. His passion and talent for  
11 the theater led to him playing Tiny Tim in the first two productions of A Christmas Carol. His  
12 love of poetry also began at a young age and flourished throughout his lifetime. He was a poet  
13 and a champion for poetry, and later in life, conferred with Robert Pinsky on the Favorite Poem  
14 Project at its inception; and

15           WHEREAS, Continuing on the path to what was to become his lifelong vocation, Mr.  
16 Miller earned his Bachelor's degree in Theater from Wesleyan University; and

17           WHEREAS, From 1982 through 1986, Mr. Miller was Managing Director of Pilobolus.  
18 He served as President of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, where he produced the River to  
19 River Festival from 2010 until January of 2016. In 2014, he returned to his alma mater to become  
20 the Co-Founder/Director of the Institute for Curatorial Practice in Performance. From 2016 to

1 2018, he collaborated to establish the CODA/2021 project at the Center for the Art of  
2 Performance at UCLA; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition, for a decade Mr. Miller served as Executive Director of the  
4 New England Foundation for the Arts, where he founded the National Dance Project, and was  
5 President of Leveraging Investments in Creativity, Executive Director of the Jacobs Pillow Dance  
6 Festival, a trustee of Danspace Project and AMRITA, and sat on the advisory boards of the  
7 Creative Capital Initiative, Reggie Wilson's Fist & Heel, and ODC/SF. He was also a Senior  
8 Advisor to the Philadelphia Contemporary project, produced the "Dance, the Spirit of Cambodia"  
9 tour and the Eiko and Koma "Retrospective", and was a consultant to The Ford Foundation, A.W.  
10 Mellon Foundation and The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage; and

11 WHEREAS, Recognized by his peers, Sam Miller was honored with the insignia of the  
12 Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Republic in 2017; and

13 WHEREAS, Described as "brilliant, innovative and intuitive," Sam Miller was an  
14 extraordinary man in many ways. He was beloved by family and friends, accomplished in the  
15 arts, and his determination in the face of adversity sustained a remarkable seven-year remission  
16 after treatment for multiple myeloma. He enriched the lives of all who knew him and he will be  
17 dearly missed; now therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
19 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Samuel A. Miller; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
21 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Anne Boardman Miller, Dian Kaufman  
22 Reynolds, the Honorable Joshua Miller and Family, and Adam Miller.

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