

2024 -- H 7502

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE GRACE
FRANCES KLINGER

Introduced By: Representatives Spears, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Shallcross Smith, Tanzi, McNamara, Ajello, Potter, and Cortvriend
Date Introduced: February 06, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of the
2 Honorable Grace Frances Klinger. The Town of Charlestown lost a faithful and dedicated public
3 servant with her passing; and

4 WHEREAS, Grace Frances Klinger was born in Queens, New York, daughter of the late
5 Thomas and Catherine Hartigan. She was the beloved wife of Frederick Klinger for 52 years; and

6 WHEREAS, Grace Frances Klinger was elected to the Charlestown Town Council in
7 November 2020 and served until her passing in January 2024; and

8 WHEREAS, Grace Frances Klinger served on the Charlestown Conservation
9 Commission from 2008 to 2020, as the commission's Vice-Chair from 2010-2016, and as Chair
10 from 2016-2020. She served as Charlestown Conservation Commission liaison to the Coastal
11 Ponds Management Commission from 2019-2020, and as the Town Council Liaison to the
12 Charlestown Conservation Commission and Wastewater Management Commission from 2020-
13 2024; and

14 WHEREAS, While serving on the Charlestown Conservation Commission, Grace
15 Frances Klinger would regularly organize and participate in trail cleanups. She would walk the
16 trails herself, and clear and clean-up where necessary. She was focused on the public's use of the
17 trails and wanted everyone to enjoy them; and

18 WHEREAS, Grace Frances Klinger was an active parishioner at St. Mary's Church/St.
19 James Chapel, and was a Certified Master Gardener, and former President of the Federated

1 Garden Clubs of Coral Springs, Florida, Brookfield, Connecticut, and Westerly, Rhode Island.
2 She was a successful businesswoman as the owner of Yester-Year Antiques for over 40 years;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to her husband, Frederick, Grace Frances Klinger leaves behind
5 her daughter, Suzanne Viens and her husband, Andrew, as well as her grandchildren, Riley,
6 Reagan and Rowan. She also leaves behind her nephews Brian, Dennis, Thomas, William, Kevin,
7 and her niece, Maureen. She was also the sister of the late Maureen, Anne, and Catherine; and

8 WHEREAS, Grace Klinger was a wonderful woman, who truly cared about others and
9 her community. She was an amazing friend who touched so many lives through her involvement
10 in Charlestown and the other communities she had called home in the past. She possessed a great
11 sense of humor and a quick wit, and words cannot adequately express how much she will be
12 missed; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
14 expresses its condolences on the passing of the Honorable Grace Frances Klinger; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Frederick Klinger and Family.

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