

2024 -- H 8054

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARK HAYWARD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS
RHODE ISLAND DIRECTOR FOR THE US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Fenton-
Fung, Shallcross Smith, Cortvriend, Costantino, Lima, and Phillips

Date Introduced: March 12, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, For almost thirty years, the citizens of the Ocean State have been the
2 beneficiaries of the abiding dedication to the belief that “Small business is the engine of
3 America’s economy” as well as the knowledge, experience, and talent that Mark Hayward has
4 brought to his job each and every day as the Rhode Island Director for the US Small Business
5 Administration (SBA); and

6 WHEREAS, During his tenure in that capacity, Mr. Hayward considers his greatest
7 accomplishment to have been “helping people build their business and seeing their dreams come
8 true.” He also successfully navigated the most arduous task of providing support, initiatives and
9 programs during the COVID pandemic that wreaked havoc on Rhode Island’s small business
10 community and most recently, finding ways to assist businesses impacted by the Washington
11 Bridge closure on 195 West; and

12 WHEREAS, Previous to his position as Rhode Island Director of the US SBA, Mr.
13 Hayward held myriad federal positions. He entered government under the leadership of President
14 Ronald Reagan and has worked through seven Presidents, holding positions with the
15 Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior, Department of Commerce, and
16 ultimately spending a total of thirty-four years with the Small Business Administration; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the course of his career, Mr. Hayward has assisted with economic
18 policy development and with bilateral aviation negotiations, and economic policies in the US and
19 former Trust territories of the Pacific Islands. He has also testified before Congressional

1 committees, and created numerous policies that continue to benefit small businesses across the
2 country; and

3 WHEREAS, A man of many accomplishments, Mr. Hayward was elected as the youngest
4 Mayor in East Providence history previous to his federal career; and

5 WHEREAS, Mark Hayward leaves his mantra “Failure is Not an Option” as his legacy
6 for the SBA and his commitment to the people of this State and his accomplishments to the
7 betterment of the small business community are enormously worthy of our emulation and
8 acknowledgement; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
10 recognizes and thanks Mark Hayward on the occasion of his retirement after almost thirty years
11 as the Rhode Island Director for the US Small Business Administration and a career that
12 encompassed almost forty-one years of steadfast and unselfish service to the people of the State
13 of Rhode Island and the United States. We wish him good health, fulfillment and continued
14 success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
16 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mark Hayward.

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