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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE FERGUSON

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Donovan, Chippendale, Speakman, Kennedy, Ackerman, Fellela, Ajello, and Diaz

Date Introduced: January 08, 2026

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 Lawrence Ferguson, a devoted family man and distinguished public servant who
3 served with distinction for sixteen years as a member of the Rhode Island House of
4 Representatives from 1985 to 2000; and

5 WHEREAS, Lawrence Ferguson was born in 1946 in Bangor, Maine, the son of the late
6 Donald and Barbara Ferguson. He was the devoted husband of Francine Ferguson for 37 years
7 and was predeceased by his first wife, Kathleen Ferguson; and

8 WHEREAS, Larry Ferguson was raised in Portland, Maine, and was a graduate of the
9 University of Southern Maine, as well as Rhode Island College, where he attained a Master's
10 degree in secondary education. Mr. Ferguson was passionate about education and was a beloved
11 eighth-grade science teacher for 27 years at Barrington Middle School. Larry always went the
12 extra mile for his students through his participation in numerous student enrichment programs.
13 Larry trained with the G.L.O.B.E. program-an international network connecting schools and
14 scientists. In addition, Larry advanced his studies at Brown University, the Massachusetts
15 Institute of Technology, the University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, and the
16 Roger Williams Park Zoo, all in the pursuit of knowledge to bring back to his students in the
17 classroom; and

18 WHEREAS, Lawrence Ferguson was a devoted public servant who served the citizens of
19 Rhode Island with energy and abiding integrity for more than twenty years. He served as the

1 Executive Director of the Rhode Island Democratic Party, District Director for Congressman
2 Patrick J. Kennedy, and was a member of Rhode Island House of Representatives (District 91) for
3 16 years from 1985 to 2000, where he served with distinction as a Subcommittee Chair of the
4 House Finance Committee, a member of the Rules Committee, and the House Committee on
5 Health and Welfare, as well as serving as the Vice Chairman of the Joint Committee on Veterans'
6 Affairs; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Ferguson also served with distinction as member of the Bristol Town
8 Council, and as the Chairman of the Bristol Democratic Town Committee. Larry was a member
9 of N.E.S.T. (Network of Educators in Science and Technology) at MIT, the National Education
10 Association, the American Legion, AMVETS, the Italian American War Veterans, and the Rhode
11 Island Democratic Party. Mr. Ferguson also served his nation with honor as a member of the
12 United States Army Reserve, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant; and

13 WHEREAS, Larry Ferguson was a man of great generosity and kindness who improved
14 the lives of countless people. He was a loving husband, father and devoted family man. In his free
15 time, he loved spending time with his family at the beach and travelling around Maine; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Francine, Larry Ferguson leaves behind his children
17 Alyssa Ferguson, Colin Ferguson, and Jonathan Ferguson; now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
19 sends its deepest condolences to the Ferguson Family; 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 Mrs. Francine Ferguson, Alyssa Ferguson,
22 Colin Ferguson, and Jonathan Ferguson.

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