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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING SANDRA LAKE FOR HER EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO
WOMEN AND COMMUNITIES IN RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Ana B. Quezada

Date Introduced: March 05, 2026

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Sandra Lake was born in San Pedro de Macorís, Dominican Republic, and
2 immigrated to the United States in 1999 with her three young daughters, bringing with her a
3 strong spirit, faith, and dedication to community service; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2001, empowered by all of the support she received upon arriving in our
5 state, Sandra established the Extraordinary Woman Award to recognize and celebrate the
6 achievements of women from all walks of life, and became the first person in the state to formally
7 organize an annual observance of International Women’s Day on March 8th; and

8 WHEREAS, The Extraordinary Woman Award grew into the Woman Development
9 Institute (WDI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which this year marks 25 years of service
10 dedicated to leadership development, educational workshops, and support for women, youth, and
11 families throughout Rhode Island; and

12 WHEREAS, Under Sandra’s leadership as Founder and Executive Director, WDI has
13 prioritized inclusivity by offering bilingual programs, translation services, and removing financial
14 barriers in order that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate and
15 benefit; and

16 WHEREAS, Sandra has built a distinguished career as an educator at the high school and
17 university levels, earning both a Bachelor of Arts in Education and a Master of Science in
18 Community Services, and has consistently demonstrated resilience and determination in
19 overcoming challenges as an immigrant; and

1 WHEREAS, Sandra is a loving mother to her three daughters, Glamirssy, Eivony, and
2 Diandra, and proud grandmother of six. Together with her husband, Domingo, they have
3 cultivated a family deeply engaged in supporting the mission of the Woman Development
4 Institute; and

5 WHEREAS, Inspired by her Christian faith and by the example of civil rights leaders
6 such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, Sandra continues to advance the empowerment of
7 women and strengthen communities across Rhode Island; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby honors Sandra Lake
9 for her outstanding leadership, tireless advocacy, and transformative contributions to women and
10 families in the state; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is directed to transmit a duly
12 certified copy of this resolution to Sandra Lake.

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