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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF LEO F. DIMAIO, JR.

Introduced By: Senators Lombardi, Jabour, Metts, Pichardo, and Paiva Weed

Date Introduced: March 06, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Leo
2 F. DiMaio, Jr., a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, the well-respected Director Emeritus
3 of the Talent Development Program at the University of Rhode Island, and a dedicated advocate
4 for education and expanding educational opportunities for minority and disadvantaged students;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Leo DiMaio was born in Providence, a son of the late Leo and Mary
7 DiMaio and brother of the late Anthony DiMaio. He was a graduate of La Salle Academy, and
8 later attended Massanutten Military Academy. He continued his education graduating from
9 Providence College in 1952, and earning his Master's degree in Education from the University of
10 Rhode Island; and

11 WHEREAS, For the past fifty-eight years, Mr. Dimaio was the devoted husband of Ilene
12 DiMaio. He was the loving father of Leo III, and his wife, Jamie, and daughter Mary Ellen, and
13 was the proud and doting grandfather of three grandchildren, Stephanie, Angelica, and Leo
14 Angelo. In addition, Mr. DiMaio is survived by many cherished nieces, nephews, grandnieces,
15 and grandnephews; and

16 WHEREAS, As the first Director of Education and Recreation at the Adult Correctional
17 Institution in Cranston, Mr. DiMaio was instrumental in initiating a GED program for inmates at
18 the institution. He had also founded the first half-way house for ex-felons in the state; and

19 WHEREAS, For more than thirty years, Mr. DiMaio was employed at the University of
20 Rhode Island and was instrumental in helping to bring diversity to the institution. Highly

1 regarded by his peers, he had been honored with the URI Administrative Excellence Award, the
2 URI Presidential Award, the URI Multicultural Center Lifetime Achievement Award, and
3 induction into the URI Athletic Hall of Fame; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. DiMaio has also been honored with the DaVinci Center Person of the
5 Year Award, the Robinson-Kizirian Award, the City of Providence Martin Luther King Jr. Hall of
6 Fame Award, and was past President and won its "Man of the Year" award of the YMCA
7 Providence Businessmen's Association. In addition, he was a LaSalle Academy Hall of Fame
8 inductee and had been honored with the creation of the DiMaio Scholars Program in his name. He
9 was also the first head basketball coach at the Zuccolo Recreation Center in Providence and was
10 honored with the dedication of the Leo DiMaio "Hall of Champions"; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. DiMaio sought opportunities to further advance the community he
12 loved and the people who were in real need of his help. Along with the late Reverend Arthur L.
13 Hardge, Mr. DiMaio had co-founded Special Programs for Talent Development at the University
14 of Rhode Island which helped generations of students with scholarships and academic support;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Leo DiMaio was blessed with the unconditional love of his wife, children
17 and grandchildren and he returned their love in full measure. He was a generous and caring
18 gentleman who left Rhode Island a far better place because of his life's endeavors and he will be
19 always missed and dearly remembered; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
21 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Leo F. DiMaio, Jr.; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
23 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Ilene DiMaio and Family.

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