

2016 -- S 2001

=====
LC003471
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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

HONORING PATRICIA EUGENIA LAVAGNINO-SPINOLA FOR HER OUTSTANDING
DIPLOMATIC SERVICE TO THE GUATEMALAN COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY DURING
HER STAY IN RHODE ISLAND, AND WISHING HER CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HER
NEW DUTIES IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Introduced By: Senators Pichardo, Paiva Weed, Morgan, Lombardi, and Sheehan

Date Introduced: January 05, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Patricia Eugenia Lavagnino-Spinola was born on July 5, 1957 in Guatemala
2 City. She studied law at the University of Landivar, studied private and public Administration and
3 took courses on immigration and emigration, human and drug trafficking issues, and on human
4 rights subjects at the University of Cranston and Ottawa University in Canada, Mexico, Taiwan,
5 Guatemala, and Belize. In Mexico, she studied at the Diplomatic School of Matias Romero,
6 attaining an Associate's degree in Diplomacy and International Commerce; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lavagnino-Spinola's exemplary Guatemalan diplomatic career began
8 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada where she was posted as Third Secretary of the Embassy of
9 Guatemala. She was promoted to First Secretary and Consul while serving in the same embassy.
10 In 1987, she was assigned as Guatemalan Delegate to the General Assembly of the United
11 Nations Organization and held a temporary position at the Permanent Mission before the UNO;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, In 1993, Mrs. Lavagnino-Spinola was transferred to serve as First Secretary
14 and Consul at the Embassy of Guatemala in Mexico, where her primary duty was to provide
15 protection to the Guatemalan transmigration. She was charged with providing protection and aid
16 to Guatemalans in various humanitarian situations, such as Guatemalans who deceased in transit,
17 amputees, to search for lost and kidnapped women and children, and other assorted duties and
18 responsibilities; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1997, Mrs. Lavagnino-Spinola was transferred to the Republic of China,
2 where she was later promoted to the position of Minister Counsellor. In 2003, she was transferred
3 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala as Deputy Director of Consular Affairs, and
4 shortly thereafter, to serve as the Director of Consular Affairs. In 2005, she was transferred to
5 Belize to serve as First Secretary and Consul of the Embassy of Guatemala. Her main duties were
6 to provide protection to Guatemalans and to assist the Ambassador in his political duties; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2010, Mrs. Lavagnino-Spinola was posted as Consul General of
8 Guatemala in Providence, Rhode Island. She worked tirelessly with the local authorities, leaders
9 of civil society, community leaders, and the private sector to provide services, information, and
10 assistance to the Guatemalan community residing throughout New England. During her stay in
11 Rhode Island, she admired the Ocean State's nature, cultural and tourist attractions, but most of
12 all, she loved the people of our great state. On December 15, 2015, she was transferred to San
13 Francisco, California, EEUU, to serve as Consul General of Guatemala. Rhode Island's loss is
14 California's gain. We will sorely miss her commitment to justice and equality for all and her
15 tireless devotion to the people of Guatemala, wherever they reside; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
17 hereby honors Patricia Eugenia Lavagnino-Spinola for her outstanding diplomatic service to the
18 Guatemalan community, especially during her stay in Rhode Island, and wishes her continued
19 success in her new duties in San Francisco, California; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Patricia Eugenia Lavagnino-Spinola.

=====
LC003471
=====