

2017 -- H 6047

LC002352

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING AND THANKING THE MOST HONORABLE PORTIA SIMPSON MILLER
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA

Introduced By: Representatives Ranglin-Vassell, Shekarchi, Morgan, Regunberg, and
Donovan

Date Introduced: March 30, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Portia Lucretia Simpson was born on December 12, 1945, in Wood Hall, St.
2 Catherine Parish, Jamaica. She attained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration, and
3 holds Certificates in Public Relations and Advanced Management from the Union Institute and
4 University of Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition, she completed the Executive Programme for Leaders
5 in Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1974, Portia Simpson became involved in politics when she was elected
7 to the City Council of the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation, as a member of the liberal
8 People's National Party (PNP). In 1976, she was elected, and subsequently reelected in 1980, to
9 the Parliament of Jamaica, to represent the constituency of South West St. Andrew Parish. After
10 abstaining from the 1983 general elections, she was reelected to her seat in 1989; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the course of the following years, Portia Simpson held myriad titles
12 and responsibilities, including rising through the ranks of the PNP party, serving as Vice
13 President and heading its Women's Movement. She was also steadily gaining the knowledge and
14 experience that ultimately led to her becoming Jamaica's seventh and first female Prime Minister;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Most Honourable Portia Lucretia Simpson Miller O.N., M.P. became
17 Jamaica's Prime Minister in March of 2006, and was conferred with the Order of the Nation on
18 May 29, 2006, giving her and her husband, Errald Miller, the title of "The Most Honourable";
19 and

1 WHEREAS, After losing the election in September of 2007, The Most Honourable
2 Simpson Miller was reinstalled as Prime Minister in January of 2012, emphasizing regional
3 integration and cooperation, and holding the office until March of 2016; and

4 WHEREAS, Myriad honors and recognitions have been bestowed upon The Most
5 Honourable Simpson Miller during the course of her illustrious service to the people of Jamaica.
6 In addition to receiving the Jamaican Order of the Nation, she was appointed by the UN Secretary
7 General to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for
8 Training and Research (UNITAR), is chair of the CARICOM Committee on External Trade, was
9 awarded the International Olympic Committee's World Women and Sport Trophy for outstanding
10 dedication to women in Jamaican Sports, received the Distinguished Award for her dedication
11 and commitment to urban renewal and community development from the Mayor of the City of
12 Miami, and received the Bureau of Women's Affairs Award for outstanding contribution to the
13 advancement of women's affairs in Jamaica; and

14 WHEREAS, For her munificent accomplishments, The Most Honourable Portia Simpson
15 Miller is truly an inspiration to all who seek to serve the public, and she is eminently worthy of
16 our praise and our acknowledgement for a job well done; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
18 Providence Plantations hereby honors The Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller for her years
19 of service to the people of Jamaica. We moreover wish her the very best health, success, and
20 happiness in all her future endeavors; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to The Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller.

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