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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017**

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**SENATE RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF AMEDEO C. MEROLLA,  
BRIGADIER GENERAL, RET.**

Introduced By: Senators Lynch Prata, McCaffrey, Raptakis, and Calkin

Date Introduced: May 04, 2017

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of  
2 retired Brigadier General Amedeo C. Merolla, beloved husband of Norma H. Merolla for sixty-  
3 four years, devoted father of Katherine Merolla, Esq., and her husband, Dr. George Kay, Julie  
4 Merolla, MSW, LICSW and her husband, Thomas Rolin, Major Sandra Merolla (USARNG, Ret.)  
5 and her husband, Major Daniel Hogan (USAR, Ret.), and the Honorable Steve Merolla, Esq., and  
6 his wife, Michelle Accetturo-Merolla. He was also the very proud "Papa" of Jeremy, Nicholas,  
7 Matthew, Katie, Robert, Jennifer, Brianna, Madison, and Bella; and

8           WHEREAS, Known as "Armie" to his family and friends, he was born in the Federal Hill  
9 neighborhood of Providence, a son of the late John and Olympia Merolla. He was a graduate of  
10 Mount Pleasant High School, earned his Bachelor's degree from Brown University, attained his  
11 Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School, and had attended the U.S. Army Command and General  
12 Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College; and

13           WHEREAS, While at Brown University, Mr. Merolla enlisted in the Marine Corps  
14 Reserve. He later graduated from the Marine Corps Infantry Platoon Leaders' Course at Quantico  
15 and subsequently enlisted in the Rhode Island Army National Guard (RIARNG) where he was  
16 awarded a direct commission as a First Lieutenant, Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps; and

17           WHEREAS, During his thirty-six year military career, General Merolla served in the  
18 Military Police, JAG, Field Artillery, and Military Intelligence branches, including serving as  
19 State Inspector General of the RIARNG and as State Staff Judge Advocate of the RIARNG. In

1 1984, he became the first Italian-American appointed by RIARNG as a General Officer when he  
2 was confirmed as a Brigadier General, and in 1985, he was appointed to the post of Assistant  
3 Adjutant General and Deputy Commanding General–Army of the RIARNG, where he served  
4 until his retirement; and

5 WHEREAS, Never a man to remain idle, upon retirement from RIARNG, General  
6 Merolla was appointed Commander of the Rhode Island State Defense Force, and later was  
7 granted the honorary rank of Major General in the Rhode Island Militia. During his distinguished  
8 military career, he was awarded myriad honors and decorations including the Legion of Merit,  
9 Meritorious Service Medal, and the Rhode Island Cross for Valor; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his military career, Mr. Merolla was a member of the Rhode  
11 Island and Massachusetts Bar Associations, and had been the senior managing partner of Merolla,  
12 Accetturo & Lough. He had served in a panoply of capacities including as Judge Advocate  
13 General and Assistant Providence City Solicitor, and legal counsel to the Rhode Island Secretary  
14 of State, the Rhode Island Public Buildings Authority, the Director of the Rhode Island  
15 Department of Administration, and Congressman James Langevin, and had served on myriad  
16 professional committees and with numerous community organizations; and

17 WHEREAS, Through his service in the military and in the community, General Merolla  
18 left a legacy of dedication and commitment to our nation and this state. He was a steadfast  
19 gentleman, whose integrity and determination enriched the lives of all who knew him and was an  
20 inspiration to us all; now, therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
22 hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Amedeo C. Merolla; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
24 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Norma H. Merolla and Family.

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