

**2019 -- H 5262**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019**

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**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF MATTHEW A. LOPES,  
SR.**

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Amore, Hull, Lombardi, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: January 31, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this House has learned of the passing of  
2 Matthew A. Lopes, Sr., devoted husband of Laura for fifty-seven years, and the beloved father of  
3 Phyllis Conway and her husband, Michael, Philip Hazard and his wife, Julie, Matthew Lopes, Jr.,  
4 Carol Gibson and her spouse, Peyton, and Laurie Lopes. He was also the very proud grandfather  
5 of thirteen grandchildren and twenty-one great-grandchildren; and

6           WHEREAS, Born in Warwick, Mr. Lopes, better known as "Matt" by his family and  
7 friends, was a son of the late William and Antonia Lopes, and the dear brother of Domingo  
8 Lopes, and the late John, Manuel, Joseph, Benjamin, Antonio, and Alexander Lopes, and Anna  
9 Lopez. He attended Central High School and had graduated from the New England Institute of  
10 Anatomy, Sanitary Science, and Embalming; and

11           WHEREAS, Matt served with honor in the United States Army during World War II.  
12 Upon returning, he coached the semi-professional basketball team, the Anthony Gomes Memorial  
13 Athletic Club, and held an outstanding ten year record of only losing four games; and

14           WHEREAS, An incredibly hard-working man, Matt had worked for more than twenty  
15 years in the transportation industry, and once retired, happily served as the doorman for the  
16 Rhode Island State Senate, followed by ten years as a driver and customer service representative  
17 for Enterprise-Rent-a-Car; and

18           WHEREAS, In addition, Matt devoted his time to the community by volunteering as a  
19 track and field official for Brown University and the Rhode Island Interscholastic League for

1 twenty-five years, and had received numerous honors for his efforts on behalf of the Rhode Island  
2 Track Association. He had also been honored with induction into the Fox Point Boys Club Hall of  
3 Fame and was a volunteer on numerous political campaigns; and

4 WHEREAS, Always an avid sports fan, Matt loved the New York Yankees and the New  
5 England Patriots, especially their many championship seasons; and

6 WHEREAS, Matt Lopes was a steadfast gentleman who left this world a far better place  
7 because of his life's endeavors. He enriched the lives of all who knew him and he will be dearly  
8 missed; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
10 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies to the entire Lopes Family on  
11 the passing of Matthew A. Lopes, Sr.; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Laura Lopes and Family.

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