

2019 -- H 5834

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF RICHARD B. LYNCH

Introduced By: Representatives Ackerman, McEntee, Marszalkowski, Fogarty, and Phillips

Date Introduced: March 12, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this House has learned of the passing of
2 Richard B. Lynch, the highly-respected former Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL)
3 Executive Director, beloved husband for fifty-five years to the late Mary Lynch, and the father of
4 Patricia Tweedie and her husband, John, Terrence Lynch, Colleen Bodziony and her husband,
5 Kurt, and Maureen Gauthier and her husband, Tom. He was also the very proud grandfather of
6 Cory Tweedie and the late Benjamin Tweedie, TJ and Taylor Lynch, Nicholas and Megan
7 Bodziony, and Matthew and Alyssa Gauthier; and

8 WHEREAS, Born in Hartford, Connecticut, Richard Lynch, better known as "Dick" by
9 his family and many friends, was the son of the late James and Katherine Lynch. He grew up in
10 Seekonk, and played football at St. Raphael Academy, attended Boston College on a four year
11 football scholarship, and received his Master's degree in Education from Providence College; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Lynch began his teaching career as a teacher/coach at St. Raphael
13 Academy until joining the staff of the Cumberland School Department where he worked as a
14 teacher, coach, assistant principal, middle school principal, and high school principal for the next
15 twenty-seven years. He was subsequently named Assistant Superintendent and ultimately
16 Superintendent of Schools in Smithfield, retiring in 1994; and

17 WHEREAS, In May of 1994, Mr. Lynch was named as the RIIL's first full-time director
18 in May of 1994. He also served as the RIIL's Director of basketball, was on its Principals
19 Committee, was past President of the R.I. Basketball Officials Association, and had officiated
20 games in the Atlantic 10, Big East, Ivy League, ECAC, MAAC and NCAA Division I

1 tournament; and

2 WHEREAS, During his tenure with the Interscholastic League, Mr. Lynch was credited
3 with transporting the organization to another level through his sense of integrity, honesty, hard
4 work and professionalism; and

5 WHEREAS, Highly regarded, Mr. Lynch was named one of "Rhode Island's Top 100
6 Most Significant Sport Figures in the 20th century" in 1999 by The Providence Journal, and was
7 selected as a recipient of the Pawtucket Red Sox Hometown Hero Award, the Rhode Island
8 Sports Council's Paul Kilcullen Sports Advocate Award, the Institute for International Sports
9 Frank Keaney Award, Rhode Island Chapter National Football Foundation/Contribution to
10 Football Award, and Words Unlimited – 2004 Frank Lanning Award/Lifetime Achievement
11 Award, to name but a few of his many honors; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Lynch retired as Executive Director of the RIIL in 2004, after nearly 50
13 years as a teacher, coach, official and school administrator. In addition, throughout the years, he
14 had been affiliated and served on myriad professional, educational, sports and community
15 organizations; and

16 WHEREAS, Although we are diminished by this loss and mourn his passing, so must we
17 celebrate the spirit, dedication and generosity with which Dick Lynch lived every day of his life;
18 now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
20 Providence Plantations hereby extends its deepest sympathy on the passing of Richard B. Lynch;
21 and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
23 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Patricia Tweedie, Terrence Lynch, Colleen
24 Bodziony, and Maureen Gauthier.

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