

2020 -- S 2945

=====  
LC005489  
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING SENATOR ERIN LYNCH PRATA ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE  
RHODE ISLAND SENATE AFTER TWELVE YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED AND  
EXEMPLARY SERVICE

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Conley, and Gallo

Date Introduced: December 18, 2020

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Erin Lynch Prata is a 1993 graduate of Toll Gate High School. She attained  
2 a Bachelor's degree from Boston College in 1997, and her Juris Doctor degree from the Catholic  
3 University Columbus School of Law in 2000; and

4           WHEREAS, In 2008, Senator Lynch Prata was elected to represent the citizens of the  
5 City of Warwick in Senate District 31. Upon her election, she was promptly recognized by her  
6 Senate colleagues for her expertise on legal issues and her thoughtful demeanor and tireless work  
7 ethic, and as a freshman legislator, was named Chair of the Small Business Task Force which  
8 helped to lead Rhode Island out of the 2008 Great Recession; and

9           WHEREAS, In continuing acknowledgement of her diligence and erudition, in 2017,  
10 Senator Lynch Prata rose to the position of Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. She has also  
11 served as a member of the Rules, Government Ethics and Oversight Committee, and the Special  
12 Legislation and Veterans' Affairs Committee; and

13           WHEREAS, During her tenure as Chair of Senate Judiciary, Senator Lynch Prata has  
14 been a fair and honorable steward of the issues and challenges facing the membership, always  
15 focusing their efforts on protecting and expanding the rights of citizens, including building  
16 consensus on the RI Parentage Act, protecting free speech, and broadening the diversity of Rhode  
17 Island's Judiciary. She led hearings regarding issues that were deeply contentious with grace and  
18 dignity, ensuring all voices were heard and all witnesses were treated fairly; and

19           WHEREAS, Throughout her distinguished twelve years of service in the Rhode Island

1 Senate, the Honorable Erin Lynch Prata has been a leader and passionate advocate on behalf of  
2 numerous causes and issues of key significance to Rhode Island's citizens. She has been the  
3 Senate's champion for raising the minimum wage in support of working people and families, and  
4 has worked tirelessly to protect Rhode Island's wondrous environment for current and future  
5 residents of our State. She has advocated for more renewable energy and has fiercely opposed  
6 gender discrimination in insurance premiums; and

7 WHEREAS, So revered and respected is she for her legal acumen, even-handedness,  
8 fairness and compassion that Senator Lynch Prata was selected for a seat on the Rhode Island  
9 Supreme Court and shall henceforth be known as "The Notorious ELP." Her vast knowledge and  
10 thoughtful demeanor will be sorely missed; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby honors Senator Erin  
12 Lynch Prata on her retirement from the Rhode Island Senate after twelve years of honorable and  
13 dedicated service; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Erin Lynch Prata.

=====  
LC005489  
=====