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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF VICTORIA CHIACU

Introduced By: Senator Melissa A. Murray

Date Introduced: April 21, 2021

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Victoria Chiacu was born in Woonsocket, the daughter of the late George
2 and Mary Babiana. She was the beloved wife of the late Nicholas V. Chiacu; and

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Chiacu was a graduate of Hill College. Her first job was as an
4 executive secretary at the Woonsocket YMCA where she developed and expanded her
5 professional skills. She learned much about commerce from her father, who owned a local
6 business on Main Street; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Chiacu was a lifelong member of St. John the Baptist Romanian
8 Orthodox Church, the church Choir and the Ladies' Auxiliary. Her faith always played an integral
9 role in her life and it was at a Church dance where she would meet the love of her life, Nicholas
10 Chiacu. Mr. Chiacu would regularly drive all the way from New York City to see her and they
11 were married in 1942, a celebration that made the front pages of the local newspapers; and

12 WHEREAS, For a period during World War II, Victoria and her husband Nicholas
13 settled in New York City, where she ran an insurance office while he was serving our nation in
14 the United States Navy on a ship in Japanese waters. She then made the decision to move back to
15 Woonsocket to wait for her husband to return from the war. They then proceeded to raise a family
16 and build a wonderful life together; and

17 WHEREAS, After forty-five years of working hard in the professional world, Victoria
18 retired and decided to winter in Florida each year for three months. In retirement, she learned how
19 to swim, and focused on her grandchildren, who were the delight of her life; and

20 WHEREAS, Victoria Chiacu leaves behind her daughters, Christine Chiacu-Forsythe and

1 her husband, Kenton, Debra Chiacu and her significant other, Charles O’Neal III, and Karen
2 Recco and her husband, Jack. She also leaves behind her two sisters, Florence Costulas and Stella
3 Babiana and her three grandchildren, Jeremy Forsythe, Jonathan Forsythe, and Kendra Forsythe
4 and her fiancé, Andrew Slafta. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, including Peter
5 Fatse and his wife, Beth, and Brian Fatse and his wife, Sue. Victoria was predeceased by Andrew
6 Babiana, Sylvia Fatse, Jimmy Babiana, and Virginia Baker; and

7 WHEREAS, Victoria Chiacu will be long-remembered by her family and many friends
8 for her beautiful smile, her innate ability to make a house a warm, loving and nurturing place, her
9 charming demeanor, her great sense of style, and the immense amount of wisdom and love she
10 dispensed daily to her family and friends; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby expresses its deepest
12 condolences to the Chiacu Family on the passing of Victoria Chiacu; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Christine Chiacu-Forsythe, Debra Chiacu, and
15 Karen Recco.

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