

2022 -- H 8344

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LC006136
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING LINDA KATZ, J.D., CO-FOUNDER AND POLICY DIRECTOR OF THE
ECONOMIC PROGRESS INSTITUTE, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT
AFTER FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
JUSTICE

Introduced By: Representatives Handy, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Ajello, Kislak, Filippi,
Tanzi, Slater, Diaz, and McNamara

Date Introduced: June 15, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, For the past forty-five years, Linda Katz has lent her time, talents, and
2 tremendous work ethic to finding and creating policies, training, and programs for affordable
3 housing, proper health care, and necessary legal aid for disadvantaged families, seniors, and
4 disabled adults in Rhode Island; and

5 WHEREAS, Upon earning her Juris Doctor, Ms. Katz began her career in 1978 as a
6 Community Education Specialist and Staff Attorney for Rhode Island Legal Services, helping
7 low-income individuals on a panoply of issues and developing training and a series of guides
8 relating to various programs to assist low-income individuals; and

9 WHEREAS, From 1988 through 1992, Ms. Katz served as Executive Director of the
10 Rhode Island Disability Center and in 1992, she returned to Rhode Island Legal Services as a
11 staff attorney. In 1995, she continued her efforts on behalf of Rhode Island's most vulnerable as
12 Health Policy Director for the Rhode Island Health Center Association, where she analyzed
13 federal and state laws affecting health centers and their patients in order to create and improve
14 policies governing patient care access to health centers and health insurance; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2001, Ms. Katz co-founded the Economic Progress Institute where she
16 has served as Policy Director for more than two decades. Under her direction, the Institute has
17 assisted in establishing statutory and regulatory provisions to help low- and moderate-income
18 Rhode Islanders with cash and food assistance, health care and child care. In addition, the

1 Institute provides input and insights to Department of Human Services on the RIte Care health
2 insurance program, and offers training to State agency staff members and the community on
3 various available benefit options; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout the course of her career, Ms. Katz has been honored with
5 myriad awards and accolades for her dedication and ability to find consensus, provide actionable
6 policies, and produce positive outcomes. She received the 2012 President's Award for
7 Excellence, the 2009 Profile in Change Award, the 2009 Healthcare Policy Heroes Award, the
8 2005 Nancy H. Gewirtz Social Action Award, and was named the 2004 Raymond J. Pettine Civil
9 Libertarian of the Year, to name but a few of her many recognitions; and

10 WHEREAS, Linda Katz's commitment to low-income and disadvantaged Rhode
11 Islanders is renowned, unwavering, and heartfelt, and her efforts have surely distinguished her as
12 a person worthy of our utmost admiration and gratitude; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
14 honors Linda Katz for more than forty-five years of conscientious and passionate service to social
15 and economic justice for Rhode Islanders. We furthermore wish her continued health, happiness,
16 and well deserved time for life's pleasures as she begins a new chapter in her life; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and direct to
18 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Linda Katz, J.D.

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