

2022 -- H 8371

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LC006154
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING AND THANKING REPRESENTATIVE MARCIA RANGLIN-VASSELL FOR
HER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Fogarty, Shallcross Smith,
Carson, Cortvriend, Cassar, Ajello, Donovan, and Speakman

Date Introduced: June 23, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Marcia Ranglin-Vassell, elected as Representative for
2 District 5 in Providence in November of 2016, is stepping down at the end of the 2022 legislative
3 year. Most currently, she has been a member of the House Education Committee, the House
4 Environment and Natural Resources Committee, and the House Small Business Committee.

5 WHEREAS, Over the course of Representative Ranglin-Vassell's tenure in the General
6 Assembly, she has championed numerous initiatives that have made a real difference in the lives
7 of countless Rhode Islanders including support for a \$15 living wage, access and reimbursement
8 for doula services, ending gun violence through a number of bills, dismantling of the school-to-
9 prison pipeline, fighting for the Resilient Rhode Island Act on Climate, and access to free high
10 speed Internet, which became critical to students success during the COVID pandemic; and

11 WHEREAS, A teacher by vocation, Representative Ranglin-Vassell strongly believes
12 that all children and adults should have access to the same opportunities in education,
13 employment, and overall quality of life. To that end, she has sponsored legislation requiring
14 school districts to provide for alternative programs and classroom space to reduce the number of
15 out-of-school suspensions, a waiver of all fees for taking an examination required in order to be
16 licensed and certified as a teacher, free lunches for all elementary and secondary students
17 attending Rhode Island's public schools, and a study on the impact, outcome, and needs of
18 children who have one or both parents incarcerated; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Ranglin-Vassell has also sponsored and co-sponsored

1 legislation to protect seniors, exempt natural hair braiders from licensing requirement, and
2 provide fair housing for those in need and referrals for families in need of emergency housing;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Jamaica, Representative Ranglin-Vassell began her life overcoming
5 poverty, fighting for justice, and demonstrating for and against myriad essential issues, and she
6 has become an author, a motivational speaker, a content developer and a poet, the founder of
7 Barrels, Books and Butterflies, a teacher, and a State Representative; and

8 WHEREAS, Respected for her accomplishments, Representative Ranglin-Vassell has
9 earned numerous honors including, acceptance as a Fellow by the National Conferences of State
10 Legislatures Child and Maternal Health, The Dr. Rose Butler Browne Award from Rhode Island
11 College, the YWCA Women of Achievement Award, YWCA Women Holding Office-Isabelle
12 Ahearn O'Neill Award, the Rhode Island College Alumni Award in Community Health, the
13 Yallahs High School Alumni Excellence in Education Award, the Rhode Island Black Business
14 Association Change Agent Award, the African Heritage Women in Education and Empowerment
15 Excellent Leadership Award, and the Bread of Life Government Mountain of Influence award;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Although the Honorable Marcia Ranglin-Vassell will be stepping down as a
18 State Representative, her numerous other responsibilities will most assuredly benefit from her
19 continued guidance and the additional time she will surely have; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
21 honors and thanks Representative Marcia Ranglin-Vassell for her service to the people of our
22 State and moreover wishes her the best of luck and good health in the years to come; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
25 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Honorable Marcia Ranglin-Vassell.

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