

2022 -- S 2936

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

THANKING DR. EWA KING FOR HER TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE WITH THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HEALTH LABORATORIES (RISHL) AND WISHING HER CONTINUED SUCCESS IN HER NEW POSITION AS THE CHIEF OF PROGRAMS FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

Introduced By: Senator Alana DiMario

Date Introduced: May 12, 2022

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Ewa King, MSE and PhD, Lodz University of Technology, began her
2 distinguished public service career in March of 2000, when she joined the Rhode Island State
3 Health Laboratories department as a Quality Assurance and Laboratory Certification Officer in
4 the Environmental section. She is certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a
5 laboratory auditor in chemistry and microbiology and under her guidance and direction, she
6 initiated a formal quality assurance program compliant with the EPA and reinstated the
7 certification program for analytical (environmental testing) laboratories; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. King was promoted in 2003 to the position of Chief of the
9 Environmental Section, and thanks to her tireless work ethic and strong leadership abilities, was
10 able to greatly improve the quality and efficiency of the environmental laboratories within the
11 section, as well as initiating the Chemical Terrorism Preparedness program; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2006, Dr. King was appointed Laboratory Director for the Division of
13 Laboratories, which later became the Division of Health Laboratories and Medical Examiners.
14 During her sixteen years as the State Laboratory Director, she has overseen the expansion of
15 highly qualified and well-trained personnel, and has been quite successful in her efforts to secure
16 stable levels of federal and state funding for laboratory programs; and

17 WHEREAS, Highlights of Dr. King's tenure include gaining internationally recognized
18 accreditation for multiple laboratory programs in addition to several federal agency certifications.

1 She also implemented a biomonitoring program which is a study of how environmental
2 contaminants can be measured in the human body, and created an opioids bio-surveillance
3 program which is a rigorous method of characterizing non-fatal overdoses; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. King successfully led the Department's response to the Covid-19
5 pandemic, including the detection of the first case of Covid-19 in Rhode Island. She also
6 successfully obtained an unprecedented \$81.7 million grant from the Centers of Disease Control
7 (CDC) for the construction of a new laboratory; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby thanks Dr. Ewa King
9 for her twenty-two years of distinguished service with the Rhode Island State Health
10 Laboratories(RISHL) and wishes her continued success in her new position as the Chief of
11 Programs for the Association of Public Health Laboratories; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
13 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Dr. Ewa King.

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