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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF GEORGE S. LIMA, SR.

Introduced By: Representatives Melo, Savage, DaSilva, Messier, and Hearn

Date Introduced: March 17, 2011

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with profound sadness and regret that this House has learned of the
2 passing of George S. Lima, Sr., a loving husband and father, a civil-rights pioneer, and a well-
3 respected former member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Lima had served his country with honor and valor during World War II
5 in the United States Army Air Corps. He had taken air training at North Carolina A&T, where he
6 had met his wife, the late Selma (Boone) Lima. Upon his entry to the Corps, he began the flight
7 training program and also the Corps' Administration School to learn aerial photography. He was
8 a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, and later became founder of the Black Air Foundation; and

9 WHEREAS, Upon discharge from the Air Corps, Mr. Lima graduated from Brown
10 University, where he founded a chapter of Omega Psi Phi; and

11 WHEREAS, Described as a "ball of fire," George Lima dedicated a large portion of his
12 enormous energy, his talents, and his life to providing equal opportunities for all. As the son of
13 Cape Verdean immigrants, Anna Morais Silva and Manuel Duarte Lima, he had seen first-hand
14 the difficulties and struggles facing so many men and women because of segregation and
15 prejudices. He worked tirelessly to find nonviolent pathways to providing opportunities for all;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Lima served as President of the NAACP Providence and was a member
18 of the Cape Verdean Progressive Center, the Cape Verdean Sub-Committee of the Rhode Island
19 Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, the American Cape Verdean Cultural Exchange
20 Commission, and the Boa Vista Seven; and

1 WHEREAS, Employed for many years in the Office of Economic Opportunity, Mr. Lima
2 later served as State Director of OEO for the State of Rhode Island. He was also the union
3 representative for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; and

4 WHEREAS, From 1985 through 1989, Mr. Lima served the people of this state in the
5 Rhode Island House of Representatives. He was elected from District 83 which encompasses
6 neighborhoods in the City of East Providence; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Lima was the father of Anna Bowling, George Lima, Jr., and Robert
8 Lima, and the grandfather of seven beloved grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, Throughout his extraordinary lifetime, George Lima strove to make Rhode
10 Island a better place to live. He enriched the lives of all who knew him and will be dearly missed
11 in the community; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
13 Providence Plantations hereby expresses its deepest sympathies to the entire Lima Family on the
14 passing of George S. Lima, Sr. He will forever be remembered by this House of Representatives
15 and the people of Rhode Island for his commitment to the public's well-being; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Anna Bowling, George Lima, Jr., and Robert
18 Lima.

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