

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING ERNIE DEGREGORIO, JO-ANN D'ALESSANDRO, CATHY LANNI, NANCY SANTOPADRE, CHERI SGAMBATO, CHRIS JONES, MICHELE YELLAND, LIZ REIS, ANTHONY FIOCCO, JESSICA NELSON, STEPHANIE CORO, AUSTIN VANBEMMELEN AND MICHAEL FERRANTE FOR BEING HONORED ON FEBRUARY 7, 2014 FOR SCORING 1,000 POINTS AS BASKETBALL PLAYERS AT NORTH PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Ciccone, E O'Neill, Nesselbush, and Archambault

Date Introduced: February 06, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, On Friday night on February 7, 2014, throngs of North Providence High
2 School sports alumni and supporters will congregate at the North Providence High School gym to
3 honor Ernie DeGregorio, Jo-Ann D'Alessandro, Cathy Lanni, Nancy Santopadre, Cheri
4 Sgambato, Michele Yelland, Liz Reis, Anthony Fiocco, Jessica Nelson, Stephanie Coro, Austin
5 VanBemmelen and Michael Ferrante for scoring 1,000 points or more during their distinguished
6 basketball-playing days at North Providence High School; and

7 WHEREAS, Ernie DeGregorio, North Providence High School Class of 1968, is a North
8 Providence and Rhode Island basketball legend. After compiling a record at North Providence
9 High School that few other players, if any, have ever matched, he went on to play at Providence
10 College where he led his team to the 1973 NCAA Final Four and was named a national First
11 Team All-American. He then went on to have a distinguished NBA career where he was the third
12 selection in the 1973 NBA draft and was the winner of the 1974 NBA Rookie of the Year Award;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Jo-Ann D'Alessandro, Class of 1983, was an outstanding player at North
15 Providence. At one time she held the scoring points record at North Providence High School and
16 was an integral part of the 1983 North Providence Class B Rhode Island Championship Team.
17 She later went on to have a very successful playing career at Rhode Island College and is a

1 member of the Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame; and

2 WHEREAS, Cathy Lanni, Class of 1983, will forever be remembered by North
3 Providence sports enthusiasts for her remarkable performance in the 1983 Girls Basketball
4 Championship game against Central High School. She scored 32 points and dominated the game
5 while leading North Providence to a 71-55 victory. In the second half, with Central High School
6 making a run, Lanni responded by scoring 16 points in the fourth quarter and sealing the victory
7 for the Lady Cougars; and

8 WHEREAS, Nancy Santopadre, Class of 1985, scored over 1,000 points in her
9 distinguished basketball career at North Providence, but she will be mostly remembered by the
10 North Providence faithful for scoring 15 points in the 1983 Rhode Island Girls Class B
11 Championship game. Her calm demeanor under pressure in that game belied her youthful
12 sophomore status and was a vital component towards her squad's victory in that game; and

13 WHEREAS, Cheri Sgambato graduated in 1990 and became the fourth lady to score
14 1,000 points for the North Providence Girls basketball program; and

15 WHEREAS, Michele Yelland graduated in 1992 and became the fifth lady to score 1,000
16 points for the North Providence Girls basketball program; and

17 WHEREAS, Liz Reis graduated in 1997 and was the last North Providence Girls
18 basketball player of the 20th century to score 1,000 points; and

19 WHEREAS, Anthony Fiocco, Class of 2004, was a high-scoring guard during his playing
20 days at North Providence. He was a dynamic scorer capable of taking over a game and carrying
21 his team to victory; and

22 WHEREAS, Jessica Nelson, Class of 2007, played forward for the North Providence
23 Girls' Basketball Team, graduating in 2007. She was a tough presence on the blocks and led her
24 team in scoring and rebounding; and

25 WHEREAS, Stephanie Coro, class of 2008, broke Jo-Ann D'Alessandro's scoring record
26 for most points by a player in North Providence High School basketball history. She was her
27 team's MVP as a senior and earned All-State, All-Class and All-Division honors in her high
28 school basketball career. She went on to have a distinguished basketball playing career at Rhode
29 Island College; and

30 WHEREAS, Austin VanBemmelen, class of 2012, was a high scoring guard for the North
31 Providence Boys Basketball Team. He was named to the Second-Team All-State Basketball
32 Team and was named to the First Team All-Division II Basketball Team; and

33 WHEREAS, Michael Ferrante, class of 2012, was a guard for the North Providence Boys
34 Basketball Team. He was named to the Second Team All Division II Basketball Team; now,

1 therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
3 hereby congratulates Ernie DeGregorio, Jo-Ann D'Alessandro, Cathy Lanni, Nancy Santopadre,
4 Cheri Sgambato, Michele Yelland, Liz Reis, Anthony Fiocco, Jessica Nelson, Stephanie Coro,
5 Austin VanBemmelen and Michael Ferrante on being honored by North Providence High School
6 for scoring 1,000 points during their exemplary basketball careers at North Providence High
7 School; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to North Providence High School Athletic
10 Director Mr. Glenn Williams.

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