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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE GLORIA
GEMMA BREAST CANCER RESOURCE FOUNDATION ON JULY 15, 2004**

Introduced By: Senator Sandra Cano

Date Introduced: April 25, 2024

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Located on Roosevelt Avenue in the City of Pawtucket, the Gloria Gemma
2 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that for the past two decades has been providing
3 free services to individuals and families by offering comfort, support, and access to resources for
4 those going through the most difficult challenges of their lives; and

5 WHEREAS, Founded in 2004, the Foundation was named in memory of Gloria Gemma,
6 a wife and mother of nine who lost her life to breast cancer in 2002. In 2008, the Foundation
7 opened its Resource and Wellness Center, and Gloria’s eldest daughter, Maria Gemma-Corcelli
8 was named Executive Director; and

9 WHEREAS, Serving communities in Rhode Island, southeastern Massachusetts and
10 eastern Connecticut, the primary areas of focus for the Foundation are awareness and education.
11 In addition, they have developed and implemented numerous free, holistic programs and services;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Currently, the Foundation employs six full-time staff and one additional
14 part-time worker, but the difference they have made in myriad peoples’ lives belies their lesser
15 size; and

16 WHEREAS, Utilizing in-person and virtual options, the Foundation’s mission is to
17 “celebrate and nurture life in our local community before, during and after a cancer diagnosis by
18 providing education, access to wellness resources and support programs to all those touched by
19 cancer”; and

1 WHEREAS, For those going through the trauma of breast cancer, the Gloria Gemma
2 Foundation has been an invaluable resource. With compassion and understanding, doled out with
3 a generous dose of hugs, the Gloria Gemma Foundation has been helping to mend the mind,
4 body, and spirits of countless women over the past twenty years and they are eminently deserving
5 of our recognition and gratitude; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby celebrates the 20th
7 Anniversary of the founding of the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation, and
8 moreover thanks them and wishes them many more decades of guidance and support to a grateful
9 citizenry; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Maria Gemma Corcelli, Executive Director of
12 the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation.

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