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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ARTHUR B. CORVESE

Introduced By: Senators Ruggerio, Paiva Weed, Goodwin, Algieri, and Ciccone

Date Introduced: June 16, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that this Senate has learned of the passing of Arthur  
2 B. Corvese, devoted husband of 53 years to Olive Corvese, and the beloved father of our friend  
3 and colleague the Honorable Dr. Arthur Corvese and his wife, Terry, and Lorraine Savage. He  
4 was also the very proud grandfather of Maria Lenz and her husband, Matthew, and Christina  
5 Corvese; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Corvese was the son of Emilio and Domenica Corvese, the brother of  
7 the late Elia Corvese, and half-brother of Steven Evangelista. He was a graduate of Ezek Hopkins  
8 Junior High, where he received the Senator Anthony medal for "Best All-Around Male Student,"  
9 and Mount Pleasant High School, where he was a standout athlete, breaking four school track  
10 records and making All-State in the 220 yard dash in his sophomore year, and All-State in the 100  
11 and 220 yard dashes in his senior year; and

12           WHEREAS, Upon graduation from high school, Mr. Corvese attended Providence  
13 College on a track scholarship, attaining his Bachelor of Arts in Education, and graduating in  
14 1954. During his collegiate years, he ran at Madison Square Garden and in the Penn Relays,  
15 breaking his own personal best 440 yard time. From 1954 through 1956, he served our country  
16 with honor in the United States Army and was stationed at Walter Reed Army Hospital in  
17 Washington, D. C.; and

18           WHEREAS, Mr. Corvese began his teaching career as a seventh grade Social Studies  
19 teacher in Massachusetts before moving to Burrillville, Rhode Island, in 1959, where he was  
20 hired as a seventh and eighth grade teacher in the former four-room Mapleville Grammar School,

1 and was made principal/teacher for the next three years. In September of 1963, he was appointed  
2 Supervising Principal of the former Pascoag Grammar School. He received his Master's Degree  
3 in Administration and Supervision on the Secondary Level from Rhode Island College in 1965,  
4 and retired in 1985; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Corvese's professional associations included serving as past President  
6 of the Burrillville Teachers Association, former Director of the Safety Junior Police Program for  
7 all the Burrillville Elementary Schools, and being a life member of the Rhode Island State  
8 Teacher's Association; and

9 WHEREAS, Active in civic organizations, Mr. Corvese was a Charter Member of the  
10 former Burrillville Jaycees Chapter, serving as State Director, Vice-President, and Executive  
11 Vice-President, and achieving a Life Membership as Jaycee Senator 7047 and receiving the  
12 Young Outstanding Educator trophy award in 1967. He was also actively involved in the  
13 establishment of the Jaycee Chapter at the ACI during the 1960s; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Corvese was an active member of the Burrillville Lions  
15 Club for 47 years. He served on numerous Lion's committees, and had worked his way up to  
16 serving as its President. He was the Burrillville Lions Club's first state-wide District Governor,  
17 and was immensely proud to be the first member of Rhode Island Lions District 42 to be honored  
18 with the prestigious national Melvin Jones Fellowship Humanitarian award. He was subsequently  
19 also honored with the Progressive Melvin Jones award. He also helped to found the Lions Club  
20 on Block Island and served as the Region I Director of the Rhode Island Lions Sight Foundation.  
21 He remained a Life Member as a Director Emeritus; and

22 WHEREAS, A contributing member of the community, Mr. Corvese was the former  
23 Vice-Chairman of the Burrillville Planning Board, and a charter member, founder, and President  
24 of the Good Sam Camping Chapter RI-17, the Little Rhody Sams. In addition, as a cancer  
25 survivor, he supported the American Cancer Society and participated in its annual Relay-For-Life  
26 beginning in 2006; and

27 WHEREAS, Arthur Corvese lived his life by a motto from his Junior High School, "Not  
28 for School, but for Life, we Learn!" He emulated the spirit of this motto throughout his lifetime  
29 and instilled this belief in his children. He was a remarkable gentleman whose life was filled with  
30 family devotion and service to his fellow man. He will be deeply missed; now, therefore be it

31 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
32 hereby extends its sincere condolences on the passing of Arthur B. Corvese; and be it further

33 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
34 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Olive Corvese, the Honorable Dr. Arthur

1 and Terry Corvese and Family, and Lorraine Savage.

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