



General Assembly

**House Joint  
Resolution No. 93**

January Session, 2005

LCO No. 3496

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Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. AMANN, 118<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. DONOVAN, 84<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. WARD, 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. BACCHIOCHI, 52<sup>nd</sup> Dist.  
SEN. WILLIAMS, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. DELUCA, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.  
SEN. CIOTTO, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF  
BENJAMIN A. MUZIO.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, Benjamin A. Muzio died on December 31, 2004, at the  
2 age of 78; and

3 WHEREAS, he served as a State Representative from 1955 until  
4 1966, representing the people of the Town of Stafford, first elected  
5 when he was in his 20s and working as a carpenter, making him at that  
6 time the only "blue collar" state representative; and

7 WHEREAS, during his service in the General Assembly, he was an  
8 active member of the Committees on Appropriations, Education,  
9 Public Health and Safety, Public Personnel and Public Utilities; and

10 WHEREAS, he was born in 1926 in Stafford, in the farmhouse in

11 which he lived all his life; and

12 WHEREAS, he was the first senior in his high school ever to receive  
13 the Balfour Honor Key; and

14 WHEREAS, he served honorably for thirty months in the United  
15 States Army Corps of Engineers during World War II; and

16 WHEREAS, after discharge, he worked in Hydeville Mill and  
17 played semi-professional football; and

18 WHEREAS, always active in fire fighting services, at the age of 16,  
19 he joined the Staffordville Fire Department Number 1, where he rose  
20 through the ranks and served as Fire Chief from 1954 to 1967; became  
21 President of the Connecticut State Firemen's Association in 1969; and  
22 served as the Stafford Fire Marshall for eighteen years; and

23 WHEREAS, he was elected Stafford's First Selectman in 1961, a  
24 position he held for 14 years; and

25 WHEREAS, he was named Deputy Commissioner of Motor Vehicles  
26 by Governor Ella Grasso in 1975, and then named Commissioner of  
27 Motor Vehicles in 1976, a position he held until 1986; and

28 WHEREAS, he then returned to the Town of Stafford to serve as  
29 First Selectman for an additional six years; and, caring deeply about  
30 the health needs of Stafford's citizens, he subsequently became its  
31 Director of Public Health; and

32 WHEREAS, during his long career, he was always active in helping  
33 the people of his beloved Town of Stafford, serving as a member of the  
34 Board of Trustees of Johnson Memorial Hospital; sexton for the  
35 Staffordville Cemetery from the early 1940s until 1997; for forty years,  
36 cultivating the flowers for bouquets that were placed on each veteran's  
37 grave on Memorial Day; actively volunteering with the Boy Scout  
38 troops; and organizing the Golden Age Club, the Stafford Historical  
39 Society, and the Stafford Conservation Commission; and

40 WHEREAS, his political activity included serving as chairman of the  
41 Democratic Town Committee and as a State Central Committeeman;  
42 and

43 WHEREAS, he is remembered with respect and affection for his  
44 commitment to and leadership in his beloved town of Stafford, to  
45 which he devoted his life, and for being a self-made man who excelled  
46 at everything he did; and

47 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of forty-six years, Dianne  
48 Collette Muzio; a son and daughter-in-law, Mitchell and Karlene  
49 Muzio; a daughter and son-in-law, Marina and Robert Hatch; three  
50 grandchildren, Kate Hatch, Adam Hatch and Jeff Batz; two step-  
51 grandchildren, Peter and Bob Wierzbowski; a brother and sister-in-  
52 law, Aldo and Alda Muzio; two sisters, Linda Fontanella and Janet  
53 Netto; two sisters-in-law, Julie Muzio and Anna Muzio, all of Stafford  
54 Springs; several nieces, nephews and cousins; and countless beloved  
55 friends and neighbors.

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut  
57 General Assembly expresses its sincere and heartfelt condolences on  
58 the death of Benjamin A. Muzio, friend and former colleague, whose  
59 death is a profound loss to the General Assembly, the Town of  
60 Stafford, and the State of Connecticut; and

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the Senate and the  
62 House of Representatives cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to  
63 the family of Benjamin A. Muzio as an expression of the high esteem  
64 and affection in which he was held.