



General Assembly

**House Joint  
Resolution No. 171**

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 3944



Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. SHARKEY, 88<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. JOHNSON, 49<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. FLEXER, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF JOHN  
LESCOE, JR.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 14, 2015, the State of  
2 Connecticut lost a distinguished former state representative with the  
3 passing of John Joseph Lescoe, Jr., at the age of seventy-six; and

4 WHEREAS, John was born in 1939, to John J. Lescoe and Mary  
5 Cremin Lescoe in Willimantic, Connecticut, where he grew up and  
6 proudly resided all his life; and

7 WHEREAS, John graduated from Windham High School in 1956  
8 followed by a two-year service in the Marine Corps; and

9 WHEREAS, John worked as a machinist for Pratt & Whitney for  
10 over eight years before starting his undergraduate study at Eastern  
11 Connecticut State University; and

12       WHEREAS, John started a thirty-year career as an educator at the  
13 Horace Porter Elementary School, in Columbia, Connecticut, after  
14 acquiring one of the first degrees awarded in physical education  
15 science from Eastern Connecticut State University; and

16       WHEREAS, John was elected to the General Assembly as a member  
17 of the House of Representatives for the 49<sup>th</sup> district by Windham  
18 residents in 1986 where he served for the next twelve years; and

19       WHEREAS, John served as assistant majority leader of the House of  
20 Representatives, vice chairman of the joint standing committee on  
21 finance, revenue and bonding, and a member of the joint committees  
22 on housing and transportation; and

23       WHEREAS, John vigorously represented Willimantic, the town of  
24 Windham and local residents while serving in the General Assembly;  
25 and

26       WHEREAS, John's constituents noted, "There are three hundred  
27 legislators in Hartford, but John always found a way to gain support  
28 for our causes"; and

29       WHEREAS, John took over the office and duties of Windham first  
30 selectman in 1999 after leaving the General Assembly, a position he  
31 served in for the next two and one-half years; and

32       WHEREAS, John then retired after thirty-two years of public  
33 service; and

34       WHEREAS, the citizens of Windham benefited greatly from John's  
35 long career as a public servant, as he served in the positions of  
36 alderman, selectman, the last mayor of Willimantic, one of the last first  
37 selectmen of Windham and a member of the House of Representatives;  
38 and

39       WHEREAS, among John's notable achievements as a public servant  
40 were the installation of lights and a playground at Recreation Park, the

41 Windham Textile and History Museum and the "Frog Bridge" in  
42 downtown Willimantic as well as the prevention of a large ash dump  
43 slated to be built in Windham; and

44 WHEREAS, John was also instrumental in the formation of Willi-  
45 MAC Softball, was elected to the first Willi-MAC Hall of Fame and, for  
46 more than fifty years, was proudly on the roster of a softball team; and

47 WHEREAS, John was a member of the B.P.O.E. Elks Club where he  
48 was named Elk of the Year from 2003 to 2004, a member of the Knights  
49 of Columbus, the former president of the Polish Club and an honorary  
50 member of the Franco-American Citizens Club; and

51 WHEREAS, John was elected by his peers as Romantic Willimantic  
52 Cupid of 2015, a tradition that began on the suggestion of his wife  
53 when he was mayor; and

54 WHEREAS, John devoted much of his time to programs for youth of  
55 the community and ran the Elk's "Hoop Shoot" and the Knights of  
56 Columbus Free Throw Contest for over forty years; and

57 WHEREAS, John, a legislator, a mayor, a first selectman, an  
58 alderman, a legendary civil servant, an educator, a community leader  
59 and a lifelong Willimantic resident, will continue to garner honor and  
60 respect from the many people who had a chance to learn from the  
61 example he set for us in his every day; and

62 WHEREAS, John is survived by his wife of fifty years, Paulann  
63 (Nowakowski) Lescoe; his daughter and son-in-law, Joy and Gino  
64 Fiasconaro of Chaplin, Connecticut; his son and daughter-in-law, Jay  
65 and Lindsay Lescoe and his grandson Jonas Lescoe of Cincinnati, Ohio;  
66 and

67 WHEREAS, John is also survived by his siblings: Mary Russo of  
68 Tolland; Margaret Aspinall and her husband Donald of Bolton; Ann  
69 Weston and her husband Frank of Kensington; and his brother, Daniel  
70 Lescoe of Windsor; and

71 WHEREAS, John was predeceased by a brother-in-law, Anthony  
72 Russo, and a sister-in-law, Candace Lescoe; and

73 WHEREAS, John is further survived by several nieces, great nieces,  
74 nephews, great nephews and cousins; and

75 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut  
76 General Assembly expresses its sincere sympathy and heartfelt  
77 condolences on the passing of one of its honorable former members,  
78 John Joseph Lescoe, Jr., whose death is a profound loss to his family  
79 and friends, the residents of the former city of Willimantic, the town of  
80 Windham and surrounding towns, and the entire State of Connecticut;  
81 and

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of  
83 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution to be  
84 sent to the family of John Joseph Lescoe, Jr., as an expression of the  
85 high esteem and affection in which he is held.