



For Immediate Release

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## **SENATOR BIAGGI STATEMENT ON IRISH INDEPENDENCE RESOLUTION**

New York State Senator Alessandra Biaggi (D-Bronx/Westchester) issued the following statement today after casting her vote in support of a resolution honoring the 100th anniversary of Ireland's Declaration of Independence.

"I voted and co-sponsored today in support of the resolution commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ireland's Declaration of Independence, which was on January 21<sup>st</sup>. I voted in honor of my grandfather, Congressman Mario Biaggi.

"My grandfather was not Irish, but that didn't stop him from speaking out and actively supporting the fight for peace in Northern Ireland at a time when many were afraid to touch the issue.

He had no need to speak out and actively support the fight for peace in Northern Ireland at a time when many were afraid to touch the issue. When he did, he was called a terrorist. But that didn't stop him.

"He stood for peace because it was the right thing to do. He knew that as caring people we have to stand up for everyone, not just the members of our own groups.

"His example is one we need to learn from today, when there are persistent voices out there peddling hate and division.

"I celebrate this anniversary of Ireland's Declaration of Independence and hope to always follow the example of my grandfather's brave stand for peace in Northern Ireland."

# # #

@senatorbiaggi