WHEREAS, former Senator and Assemblyman James S. Cafiero was born on September 21, 1928, in North Wildwood, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Cape May County, Senator Cafiero led a distinguished life of public service across five decades; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero’s public service began at a young age, when he served as a carrier for the Wildwood Post Office and as a Junior Air Raid Warden during the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University, where he joined the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps, and later received his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero and his wife Patricia had three children, Jamey, Drew, and Stephen, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero was elected in 1967 to the General Assembly, where he represented the 1st Legislative District from 1968 to 1972; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero was elected in 1971 to the Senate, where he represented the 1st Legislative District from 1972 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero served as Senate Minority Leader from 1976 to 1978, and also served as Majority Whip and Assistant Minority Leader during his first stint in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero returned to the Senate in 1990 and again represented the 1st Legislative District until his retirement in 2004, during which time he served for two years as Majority Whip; and
WHEREAS, as a legislator, Senator Cafiero fought to lower prices of prescription drugs, protect New Jersey's environment and children, promote affordability measures, and advance legislation to address stalking and drunk driving; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his decades of service in the Legislature, Senator Cafiero practiced law at a firm founded by his father, Anthony J. Cafiero, who also served as a Senator, Cape May County Prosecutor, Superior Court Judge, and delegate to the State Constitutional Convention of 1947; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero’s legal career included service as Assistant Cape May County Prosecutor, New Jersey Counsel for the Delaware River and Bay Authority, Solicitor of the City of North Wildwood, and counsel to numerous other government entities in Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero passed away on August 3, 2023, at the age of 94; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cafiero will be remembered not only for his lifetime of public service, but also for his sense of humor and quick wit, his kindness and altruism, and his ability to work across the aisle to advance the public interest; and

WHEREAS, as we mourn the passing of Senator Cafiero, it is appropriate to recognize and honor his legacy as an elected official and his commitment to the 1st Legislative District, Cape May County, and the State of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI, Acting Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:
1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Monday, August 14, 2023, in recognition and mourning of Senator and Assemblyman James S. Cafiero, a longtime, dedicated legislator.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 9th day of August, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth.

[seal] /s/ Nicholas P. Scutari

President of the Senate, Acting Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg

Chief Counsel to the Governor