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Governor Deval Patrick

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DEVAL L. PATRICK
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For Immediate release - May 05, 2009

Statement from the Office of Governor Deval L. Patrick

BOSTON- Tuesday, May 05, 2009 - It is with great sadness we announce that Lilian Bemus, the mother of First Lady Diane Patrick, has passed away after a lengthy illness. Mrs. Bemus, 88, of Hollis, N.Y., was a Brooklyn school teacher for 30 years, retiring in 1985. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, John Bemus, and her three children: John Bemus, Lynn Prime, and Diane Bemus Patrick, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Mrs. Bemus was the daughter of Bertram L. Baker, the first black elected official from Brooklyn, and the first black Majority Whip of the New York State Assembly.

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