

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

January 26, 2023

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 12.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Colchester 10-to-12 Little League Softball All-Stars on winning the 2022 Vermont Little League Softball Championship

Offered by: Representatives Austin of Colchester, Brennan of Colchester, Chase of Colchester, and Taylor of Colchester

Offered by: Senator Mazza

Whereas, in the sixth inning of the second and decisive game of the 2022 Vermont Little League softball championship, the Colchester 10-to-12 Little League Softball All-Stars trailed their rival, the Champlain team, 13–9, and

Whereas, despite this significant scoring deficit, Colchester rebounded strongly to clinch the Vermont Little League Softball championship, 14–13, and

Whereas, the talented Colchester players, who first earned a berth in the New England Little League Softball championship competition, and then surprisingly advanced to this regional tournament's final game, were Athalie Fane-Cushing, Destiny Hendy, Eliza Fischer, Elle Robinson, Emily Feltz, Haley Bouvier, Harlow Hier, Makenna Pratt, Olivia O'Dell, Persephone Tirrito, Taylor Davidson, and Teagan Kane, and Mat Robinson, Tim Davidson, and Chris Kane were superb coaches and mentors, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Colchester 10-to-12 Little League Softball All-Stars on winning the 2022 Vermont Little League Softball Championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Colchester 10-to-12 Little League Softball All-Stars.

H.C.R. 13.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Rebecca N. Ballard of Georgia

Offered by: Representative Branagan of Georgia

Whereas, for over a century, Rebecca Ballard made the Town of Georgia her home, first as a child growing up on her family's farm on Robert Newton Road, and later, as an adult, when she continued her family's farming tradition, marrying a neighboring farmer, and moving to his family's farm, which predates Vermont's statehood and is located on Ballard Road, and

Whereas, her education began in one-room schools in the Town of Georgia and continued at the University of Vermont from which she graduated, and

Whereas, she was constantly engaged in town, church, and family events, and was a faithful attendee at the Georgia Town Meeting, and

Whereas, ever the willing volunteer at her church, Rebecca Ballard served as a Sunday school teacher, fundraiser, and member of the congregation's board of deacons, and its Helping Hands Society, providing fresh flowers from her garden for church events, and

Whereas, in the broader community, Rebecca Ballard was a respected instructor in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Extension Service's Georgia Home Demonstration Club, and served on the Franklin County Extension Service Board and as a Georgia Public Library trustee, and

Whereas, as a talented sewer, knitter, quilter, and rug braider, Rebecca Ballard created blankets, hats, mittens, and rugs for her family and as donations to charitable organizations, and

Whereas, she regularly participated in the activities of the Vermont Retired Educators' Association and the Georgia Historical Society, and

Whereas, after a fulfilling life, Rebecca N. Ballard died at 101 years of age on April 1, 2022, and her survivors include her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of Rebecca N. Ballard, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Rebecca Ballard.

H.C.R. 14.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Anna E. MacWilliams Neville

Offered by: Representative Branagan of Georgia

Whereas, a woman dedicated to serving others and one who loved to engage in adventures at home and abroad are accurate descriptions of Anna Neville, and

Whereas, an early involvement with the Girl Scouts resulted in her serving in Girl Scout leadership roles and engendered a love for the outdoors and hiking the Long Trail, and

Whereas, Anna Neville earned a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College, and during World War II she served in the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), and later graduated from Columbia University Teachers College with a master's degree in intercultural and international education, and

Whereas, as an admired social worker for the State of Vermont, she rose to a supervising role for Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille Counties and always placed a child's needs first and the bureaucratic rules second, and

Whereas, she was a co-founder of what is now Northwestern Counseling and Support Services, coordinated numerous international student exchanges, actively engaged in the culture of her Scottish heritage, and served as a deacon of the First Congregational Church in St. Albans and as an inspiring director of the St. Albans Museum, and

Whereas, on June 2, 2022, Anna Neville died at 98 years of age on the farm on the Georgia Shore Road that has been her family's since 1926, and her survivors include her daughter, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Anna E. MacWilliams Neville, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Anna E. MacWilliams Neville.

H.C.R. 15.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and District 4 Act 250 Environmental Commissioner James McNamara of Burlington

Offered by: Representatives Hooper of Burlington, Ode of Burlington, Bluemle of Burlington, Cina of Burlington, Headrick of Burlington, Krowinski of Burlington, Logan of Burlington, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Stebbins of Burlington, and Stone of Burlington

Offered by: Senators Baruth, Chittenden, Gulick, Lyons, Ram Hinsdale, and Vyhovsky

Whereas, Jim McNamara was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, a dedicated public servant, and an enthusiastic golfer, skier, and singer of sacred and secular music, and

Whereas, after serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and graduating from the College of the Holy Cross and Cornell Law School, he worked as an assistant Burlington City Attorney, as a private practitioner with his father, and then with the law firm of McNamara, Fitzpatrick, and McCormick, and

Whereas, for more than 30 years he served as a Burlington Justice of the Peace, and in advance of the 1994 session, Governor Howard Dean appointed Jim McNamara to a vacant seat in the House of Representatives, where he served honorably until 2000 as a member of the Committee on Transportation, and

Whereas, in the 1970s, Governor Thomas Salmon nominated Jim McNamara to the District 4 Act 250 Environmental Commission, and, following Jim's legislative service, Governors Dean, Douglas, Shumlin, and Scott returned Jim McNamara to the Commission as an alternate, where his active participation as commissioner reflected his intelligence, reasonableness, thorough preparation, and engaging wit, and

Whereas, Jim McNamara died on November 27, 2022, leaving his children and grandchildren, his wife of 44 years, Ellie, having predeceased him in 2004, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere sympathies to the family of former Representative and District 4 Act 250 Environmental Commissioner James McNamara, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Jim McNamara and to the District 4 Act 250 Environmental Commission.

H.C.R. 16.

House concurrent resolution celebrating the importance of mentoring programs for young persons in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Brown of Richmond and Brady of Williston

Whereas, the future of Vermont rests on the hopes and dreams of its young people, and

Whereas, caring and committed mentors offer support for youth when they act as a consistent friend and role model, help to ignite a young person's curiosities, solidify a youth's passions, and encourage the flowering of an individual's potential, and

Whereas, mentored youths exhibit improved resiliency and better relationships with peers, family, schools, and community, and

Whereas, Vermont mentoring agencies, including MENTOR Vermont and other public and private organizations, are committed to working collaboratively to empower youth and broaden the reach of mentoring relationships in our communities, and

Whereas, in January 2002, MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership and Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health jointly designated January as National Mentoring month, and

Whereas, today, February 1, 2023, MENTOR Vermont, which is committed to fostering an environment of diversity and inclusion, is extending Mentoring Month 2023 by one day for a special legislative commemoration of this creative and invaluable movement to assist young persons in their quest to develop meaningful lives, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the importance of mentoring programs for young persons in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to MENTOR Vermont.

H.C.R. 17.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2022 Montpelier High School Division II championship boys' soccer team

Offered by: Representatives Casey of Montpelier and McCann of Montpelier

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Perchlik, and Watson

Whereas, during the 2022 season, the top-seeded Montpelier Solons dominated the Division II boys' soccer competition, preventing their opponents from scoring in 12 games, and

Whereas, the Solons deservedly earned a berth in the decisive season finale, where their prowess on defense and offense was apparent, and

Whereas, their opponents, the third-ranked Harwood Union High School Highlanders, remained scoreless, and Montpelier's sole goal early in the second half enabled the team to conclude a fantastic championship season with an impressive 17-0-1 record, and

Whereas, the talented Solons were Brio Levitt, Tyler Thomas, Carson Cody, Ethan Bigglestone, Steven Suppan, Cameron Cook, Josiah Phillips, Ronnie Riby-Williams, Clayton Foster, Maclay Ericson, Carter Bruzzese, Aidan Quinn, Colby Sterling-Proulx, Nate Stephani, Noah Samuelson, Ben Wetherell, Owen Lathrop, Will Curtis, and Olin Duggan, and

Whereas, Head Coach Eric Bagley was proud of his team's dedication and performance on the field, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2022 Montpelier High School Division II championship boys' soccer team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Montpelier High School.

H.C.R. 18.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Alexander Collins of Norwich on winning the 2022 Vermont Open chess championship

Offered by: Representatives Holcombe of Norwich and Masland of Thetford

Whereas, since first grade, Alexander Collins, a member of Norwich's Howe Library Chess Club, has been fascinated by this game of strategy, and, as a result of his tournament participation, has earned intermediate player designation, and

Whereas, in 2022, now 13 years of age, Alexander Collins entered the Vermont Open chess tournament in Burlington, with 43 other competitors, anticipating the event as a fun experience and not aspiring to win, and

Whereas, Alexander Collins's methodic preparation and superb concentration stunned his fellow players, as he won all four of his matches, playing at a senior master level, and

Whereas, this extraordinary performance culminated in his becoming the youngest-ever State chess champion in Vermont history, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Alexander Collins of Norwich on winning the 2022 Vermont Open chess championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Alexander Collins.

H.C.R. 19.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Robert D. Murray of South Strafford

Offered by: Representatives O'Brien of Tunbridge, Burrows of West Windsor, Holcombe of Norwich, and Masland of Thetford

Whereas, Tunbridge native Bob Murray first demonstrated his athletic prowess as a catcher on the South Royalton High School baseball team, and he served in the U.S. Army as a high-speed radio operator stationed in Okinawa, and

Whereas, upon his return to Vermont, Bob Murray married Barbara Mobus, who became his life's loving partner for 64 years, and he graduated from Lyndon State College, where he, not surprisingly, captained the baseball team, and

Whereas, for two years he taught math at the Tunbridge Elementary School; transitioned to the Newton School in South Strafford, where he began a 28-year career as its teaching principal and where his wife served as school secretary; and, after retiring from the Newton School, he worked for a decade at the Thetford Academy Learning Center, and

Whereas, during Bob Murray's 55 years residing in Strafford, he was truly a pillar of the community, serving as lifetime volunteer firefighter, an active cemetery association volunteer, and as a volunteer on many civic projects, and regularly coaching his children's sports teams, and

Whereas, in recognition of his community contributions, the town named its recreation field in his honor, and he was designated a Lions Club Citizen of the Year, and

Whereas, on December 17, 2022, Bob Murray died at 87 years of age, and his survivors include his wife, children, and grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Robert Murray, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Bob Murray's family.

H.C.R. 20.

House concurrent resolution recognizing February 2023 as School Board Recognition Month in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Sibilio of Dover, Conlon of Cornwall, Hango of Berkshire, Arsenault of Williston, Brady of Williston, Burrows of West Windsor, Christie of Hartford, Clifford of Rutland City, Goslant of Northfield, Long of Newfane, Morris of Springfield, Priestley of Bradford, Sims of Craftsbury, Small of Winooski, Smith of Derby, and Torre of Moretown

Whereas, Vermonters who serve as school board members are performing a not-widely acknowledged yet essential role in public education governance, and

Whereas, school board members are participants in frontline civic engagement in a manner often dissimilar to other elected officials, and

Whereas, whether it be the aftermath of district consolidation or the challenges of school operations during the pandemic, school board members confront these difficulties, ever mindful of students' academic success, and

Whereas, these citizen leaders merit our admiration in their fulfillment of a role for which they deserve our respect and gratitude, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates February 2023 as School Board Recognition Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont School Board Association.

H.C.R. 21.

House concurrent resolution honoring the organizations and individuals working to resolve Vermont's rural broadband access crisis

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, the State of Vermont is committed to solving the rural broadband access crisis, and to achieve this goal, the General Assembly has enacted 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 41, recognizing multi-municipality Communications Union Districts (CUDs,) for broadband implementation and management;

2019 Acts and Resolves No. 79, providing new State funding, a Department of Public Service (DPS) position, and the establishment of the Broadband Innovation Grant Program at DPS; and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 71, creating the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) to oversee and manage the newly established Vermont Community Broadband Fund, and

Whereas, the CUDs have organized the Vermont Communications Union Districts Association (VCUDA) to assist the CUDs and represent their interests before the General Assembly and other organizations, and

Whereas, since 2007, Vermont's first CUD, ECFiber, under its operator, ValleyNet, has pioneered the development, with public and private funding, including the bonding of universal broadband access in its jurisdiction, and serving over 7,500 customers via a nearly 1,700-mile network encompassing 31 towns, and

Whereas, in 2023, the 10 CUDs—Chittenden County CUD, CVFiber, DVFiber, ECFiber, Lamoille FiberNet, Maple Broadband, Northwest FiberworX, NEK Broadband, Otter Creek CUD, and Southern Vermont CUD—are currently providing or developing broadband service for customers in over 200 municipalities, facilitating access to educational, economic development, healthcare, and governmental services, as well as family entertainment, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the central importance of CUDs to the establishment of statewide universal high-speed broadband access and congratulates the CUDs, the VCUDA, and the VCBB in this essential endeavor, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the CUDs, the VCUDA, and the VCBB.