

No. R-217. House concurrent resolution honoring Montpelier's unique music man, Fred Wilber.

(H.C.R.163)

Offered by: Representatives Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Hooper of Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, and Klein of East Montpelier

Offered by: Senator Doyle

Whereas, Fred Wilber's Montpelier musical odyssey began on January 23, 1973, with the opening on Langdon Street of Buch Spieler, an esoteric retailer of recorded music with the motto "Music to Color the Silence," and

Whereas, when he welcomed his first customer, the intent was to keep the business, started as part of an academic course, open "until something else came along," and

Whereas, a lover of theatrical displays, he was known to place live models in Buch Spieler's display windows and stage sidewalk performances in front of the store, and

Whereas, these same windows also featured thought-provoking displays with nontraditional bumper stickers, cards, and posters, and

Whereas, he observed a morning ritual, along with his dog, Jack, of sweeping Buch Spieler's front entrance and the adjacent sidewalk, and

Whereas, Fred Wilber became one of the first and most ardent advocates for creating a vibrant and walkable downtown, and he was known to wonder why citizens complain so much about parking, and

Whereas, his musical roles also included work as a disc jockey, and for 20 years he has enlivened the weddings of hundreds of happy couples, and

Whereas, Fred Wilber also performed in many bands, including Butch Casio, Barbara's Charm School, Ken Sleeps Naked, Mad Dub, and Madmen 3, and

Whereas, he loved to regale everyone with tales of his musical adventures as a disc jockey or band member and to relate stories of his trips, especially his sojourns to New York City, and

Whereas, Fred Wilber and Patty Morgan are celebrating their 30th anniversary in 2015; they are the parents of a daughter, Morgan; and Fred Wilber's brother, Dennis, has been a quiet but essential business partner, and

Whereas, although Fred Wilber has sold Buch Spieler after 42 years in business, he has pledged to remain in Montpelier and serve as the capital city's ambassador and volunteer extraordinaire, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Montpelier's unique music man, Fred Wilber, and be it further

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