

**No. R-444. House concurrent resolution expressing sincere appreciation for the presence of General Electric's Aviation and Healthcare units in Vermont and for their major contribution to the State's economy.**

(H.C.R.367)

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Bancroft of Westford, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Condon of Colchester, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Dame of Essex, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Evans of Essex, Feltus of Lyndon, Fiske of Enosburgh, Forguites of Springfield, French of Randolph, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Graham of Williamstown, Head of South Burlington, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Johnson of South Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keenan of St. Albans City, Krebs of South Hero, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Macaig of Williston, Martel of Waterford, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, Parent of St. Albans Town, Patt of Worcester, Pearce of Richford, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Purvis of Colchester, Quimby of Concord, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Sibilina of Dover, Smith of New Haven, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Toll of Danville, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Wright of Burlington, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Benning, Bray, Campbell, Champion, Collamore, Cummings, Degree, Doyle, Flory, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Mullin, Nitka, Pollina, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, and White

Whereas, General Electric (GE) is an American manufacturing company that traces its history to Thomas Edison, the inventor of the incandescent light bulb, who established the Edison Electric Light Company in 1878 that by 1890 was known as the Edison General Electric Company, and

Whereas, in 1892, the Edison General Electric Company merged with its main competitor, the Thomson-Houston Company, to form the General Electric Company (GE) that has operated for 124 years, and

Whereas, since the 1950s, Rutland has been an important site for GE employment, and today the company, through its GE Aviation unit, operates a 528,000-square-foot plant on Windcrest Road in Rutland Town and a smaller manufacturing facility on Columbian Avenue in Rutland City, and

Whereas, the Rutland plants produce some of the best jet engines in the world, including the GENx that powers the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, and

Whereas, in recent years, GE has invested \$100 million in the Rutland plants, and

Whereas, over 1,000 people are employed at GE in Rutland, working in jobs regarded as the highest paid manufacturing positions in the region, and

Whereas, these employees are local and State taxpayers and contribute to the Rutland and Vermont economy when they purchase homes, goods, and services, and

Whereas, Rutland is not GE's only Vermont employment location as its GE Healthcare unit in South Burlington employs 340 persons and does approximately \$40 million worth of business with dozens of suppliers of parts and services across the State, and

Whereas, GE Aviation and GE Healthcare are important to the State's economic well-being, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses sincere appreciation for the presence of General Electric's Aviation and Healthcare units in Vermont and for their major contribution to the State's economy, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to GE Aviation in Rutland, GE Healthcare in South Burlington, and to GE corporate headquarters in Fairfield, Connecticut.