

No. R-3. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Dr. Anna E. Worth.

(S.C.R.3)
(SPECIAL SESSION)

By Senators Sears and Hartwell,

By Representatives Miller of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Hube of Londonderry, Komline of Dorset, Krawczyk of Bennington, Mook of Bennington and Wilson of Manchester,

Whereas, few persons are as passionate in protecting animals as was Dr. Anna Worth, a Shaftsbury veterinarian who was an international leader in the effort to promote their humane care, and

Whereas, Anna Worth's parents recognized her devotion to animals when they permitted their young daughter to bring her treasured pet donkeys into the family's living room in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and

Whereas, her abhorrence of animal cruelty coincided with her Quaker faith and its precepts that are premised on nonviolence, and

Whereas, compassion for animals was so deeply ingrained in Anna Worth's outlook on life that she focused her professional career on their welfare, earning a degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine following her graduation from Denison University, and

Whereas, she and her husband, Dr. Robert Bergman, a University of Pennsylvania classmate, practiced in Montana before opening the West Mountain Animal Hospital in Shaftsbury, and

Whereas, aside from operating an active veterinary practice, Dr. Anna Worth became a leader among her Vermont colleagues, serving as president of

the Vermont Veterinary Medical Association, founding and editing the society's newsletter, and serving as the Vermont delegate to the American Veterinary Medical Association, and

Whereas, Dr. Anna Worth served on the board of the Bennington County Humane Society and chaired the Vermont Cruelty Task Force and the Vermont Animal Welfare Committee, and

Whereas, beyond Vermont, she was a key figure in the activities of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), an organization that develops standards and provides accreditation services for animal hospitals and that seeks to improve the quality of animal care internationally, and

Whereas, the level of respect she earned within AAHA made her a clear choice to serve as its representative on national task forces and to other similarly oriented organizations, and

Whereas, the AAHA entrusted her with its most important responsibilities when it selected her to serve as president for the 2008–2009 term and, ever the optimist, Dr. Anna Worth performed these demanding duties, including an active speaking and travel schedule that she continued to maintain, despite her valiant battle against cancer, and

Whereas, this internationally revered advocate for humane animal care, this wife, mother, and grandmother who loved outdoor hobbies, died in the presence of her family on May 16, 2009, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sympathies to the family of
Dr. Anna E. Worth, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this
resolution to her husband, Dr. Robert Bergman, daughter Sarah Bergman of
Tucson, Arizona, and son Bo Bergman of Shaftsbury.