

NO. R-23. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION HONORING THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE OF SAMUEL H. BURR.

(H.C.R.13)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, “farmer Sam” of Monkton, as Sam Burr was popularly known among his legislative council colleagues, graced the State House’s chambers and committee rooms with his presence for a decade, starting in 1998 when he was hired as a law clerk, and

Whereas, his precise drafting skills, eloquent testimonial delivery, warm congeniality, and commitment to serving the general assembly so amazed and dazzled legislators and staff alike that he was appointed a legislative counselor at the conclusion of his clerkship, and

Whereas, a graduate of Harvard University and Northeastern University Law School, Sam Burr took an extended academic hiatus between college and law school to pursue his ambitions to become an organic farmer and to serve as a Monkton lister, a role that immersed him in the intricacies of Vermont property tax law and taught him the diplomatic skills he drew on with great success as a legislative counselor, and

Whereas, Sam Burr was assigned the subject portfolios for the committees on commerce and on finance, and, of course, on agriculture, which enabled him to work in a diverse mix of public policy areas, and

Whereas, on behalf of the commerce and finance committees, Sam Burr immersed himself on issues pertaining to electric power generation,

telecommunications, banking, insurance, securities and all the exciting aspects of the Uniform Commercial Code, and he carefully prepared updating amendments to the articles of this complex statutory compendium, and

Whereas, Sam Burr devoted many hours to matters related to the dairy industry, including legislation pertaining to the milk price commission and to an investigation of the vexing problems of balancing farmers' and the transportation industry's concerns as they relate to agricultural rail crossings, and

Whereas, within the Legislative Council's offices, Sam Burr's most important responsibility was to act as a purveyor of fresh and highly edible products from his farm, known as the Last Resort, and colleagues always enjoyed the eggs, berries, and other home grown items that he brought in for sale on many mornings, and

Whereas, in the summer of 2008, the yearning to resume farming on a full-time basis proved irresistible and, after a decade of outstanding public service, Sam Burr resigned from the Legislative Council staff to return to till the soil in Addison County, and

Whereas, he will be sorely missed by one and all, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the legislative council service of Samuel H. Burr and wishes him, and his wife, Eugenie, the best of success as they harvest crops at the Last Resort, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Sam Burr in Monkton.