

NO. R-54. JOINT HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE
CANDIDACY OF LINDA M. PERHAM TO SERVE AS NATIONAL
COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.

(J.R.H.5)

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Krawczyk of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Acinapura of Brandon, Adams of Hartland, Aswad of Burlington, Baker of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Fagan of Rutland City, O'Donnell of Vernon, Potter of Clarendon and Winters of Williamstown

Whereas, the American Legion is an organization composed of veterans of our nation's military services that works to ensure they are not forgotten, and

Whereas, the American Legion promotes patriotism and loyalty to our nation and its values, and

Whereas, the men and women who are American Legion members belong to local posts throughout the United States, including Vermont, and

Whereas, the highest officer in the American Legion is the national commander, who represents the organization before many forums in both government and the private sector, and

Whereas, the national commander has never been a Vermonter and has always been a male, and

Whereas, Linda Perham, who grew up in Bellows Falls, is a superb candidate for the office of American Legion national commander who, if elected, would become both the first Vermonter and the first woman to reach the pinnacle of the American Legion's leadership, and

Whereas, the national commander visits American Legion Posts and addresses foreign dignitaries and troops both at home and overseas, and

Whereas, Linda Perham is a graduate of Bellows Falls High School and Southern Vermont College, from which she earned an associate degree magna cum laude in nursing, and

Whereas, she is a life member of American Legion Post #37, and

Whereas, for 13 years, Linda Perham served in the U.S. Army as a combat medic, licensed practical nurse, and registered nurse, and

Whereas, within the Vermont Department of the American Legion, she rose to the rank of department commander, and

Whereas, nationally, Linda Perham has served as an American Legion leader of great distinction, performing many roles including national vice commander, and

Whereas, the Vermont Department of the American Legion has enthusiastically endorsed her candidacy and is assisting her in the campaign process, and

Whereas, Linda Perham's selection as the national commander of the American Legion would be a historic milestone for women members of the American Legion and its posts in the state of Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its support for the candidacy of Linda Perham to serve as national commander of the American Legion, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Team Vermont in Bennington and to Linda Perham.