

NO. R-57. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING  
THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES' BENNINGTON AERIE #1861  
ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

(H.C.R.35)

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington and Krawczyk of  
Bennington

Whereas, on February 6, 1898, six theater owners in Seattle, Washington  
founded the "Seattle Order of Good Things," and

Whereas, shortly thereafter, the organization selected the Bald Eagle as its  
official emblem, changing its name to "The Fraternal Order of Eagles," and the  
new group rapidly expanded across the United States and Canada with the  
establishment of an aerie, or local unit, in many communities, and

Whereas, the organization's mission is "to unite fraternally for mutual  
benefit, protection, improvement, social enjoyment and association, all persons  
of good moral character," and

Whereas, among the legal and legislative battles for justice that the Fraternal  
Order of Eagles has fought and won are the enactment of workers'  
compensation laws, the creation of mothers' and old age pensions, and the  
establishment of Social Security laws and job protection for older workers, and

Whereas, the Fraternal Order of Eagles supports medical research through  
the Art Ehrmann Cancer Fund, the Max Bear Heart Fund, the Jimmy Durante  
Children's Fund, the "Doc" Dunlap Kidney Fund, and the Diabetes Fund, and

Whereas, Bennington Aerie #1861 was established on March 15, 1909, and

Whereas, for many years, Bennington Aerie #1861's governance structure  
did not include a president, but, in 1937, it was reorganized, and the first

person to have the honor of serving as its aerie president was James “Dash” Gibney, and

Whereas, one of the charitable activities to which Bennington Aerie #1861 is dedicated is the sponsorship of a Thanksgiving dinner that reaches out into the community to persons who would not otherwise enjoy a celebratory holiday meal, and

Whereas, another priority for Bennington Aerie #1861 is making regular financial contributions to the Vermont Children’s Hospital in Burlington, and

Whereas, in the area of athletics, Bennington Aerie #1861 sponsors a youth football team and contributes funds to other sports programs in the area, and

Whereas, President Robin “Robbie” Stratton and Auxiliary President Cheryl Harrington are preparing to commemorate Bennington Aerie #1861’s centennial anniversary at a celebratory dinner on Saturday evening, January 31, 2009, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Fraternal Order of Eagles’ Bennington Aerie #1861 on its centennial anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Robin Stratton in Bennington.