

NO. R-106. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of U.S. Senator George Aiken's popularizing the geographic designation Northeast Kingdom.

(H.C.R.66)

Offered by: Representatives Wheeler of Derby, Crawford of Burke, Higley of Lowell, Johnson of Canaan, Kilmartin of Newport City, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Leriche of Hardwick, Lewis of Derby, Marcotte of Coventry, Morley of Barton, Peaslee of Guildhall, Reis of St. Johnsbury, Rodgers of Glover, South of St. Johnsbury and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Choate, Illuzzi, Kitchel, Starr

Whereas, the term Northeast Kingdom is the geographic reference commonly associated with Vermont's three most northeasterly counties—namely Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans, and

Whereas, early use of the term, dating to the 1940s, can be traced to W. Arthur Simpson of Lyndon and Newport newspaper publisher Wallace Gilpin, and

Whereas, the widely publicized popularization of this well-established Vermont geographic name can be attributed to former U.S. Senator George Aiken, who employed the term during a 1949 address to a newly established tri-county development commission that was meeting in Lyndonville, and

Whereas, Senator Aiken referred to the Northeast Kingdom frequently during his political career, especially when discussing the external exploitation of Vermont's natural resources and promoting locally financed development efforts, and

Whereas, although some individuals, especially newcomers, perceive the Northeast Kingdom as an economically depressed zone that modern life has left far behind, the true lovers of this region of Vermont consider it a haven of unparalleled beauty, filled with large forests, rolling highlands whose summits offer grand unspoiled vistas, and a place where the pace of life is calmer and is reflective of Vermont's earlier way of life, and

Whereas, the 60th anniversary of Senator Aiken's use of the term Northeast Kingdom in his Lyndonville address should not go unrecorded in the journals of the General Assembly, as Vermonters consider this wild and wonderful corner of the state as the place where unique aspects of our state's identity are still preserved, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 60th anniversary of U.S. Senator George Aiken's popularizing the geographic designation Northeast Kingdom, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce in St. Johnsbury, to Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce in Newport, to the Island Pond Chamber of Commerce, and to members of the Aiken family.