

NO. R-108. House concurrent resolution recognizing the 61 years of extraordinary school board service of Dr. Harry Rowe.

(H.C.R.68)

Offered by: Representatives Conquest of Newbury and Larocque of Barnet

Offered by: Senators Choate, Kitchel and MacDonald

Whereas, Dr. Harry Rowe of Wells River has served his neighbors in two remarkable careers as a practicing physician and as a school board member dedicated to high-quality public education, and

Whereas, he began his professional life as an educator at the Middletown Springs School, and although he left to pursue his ambition to become a medical doctor, Harry Rowe never abandoned his enduring commitment to public education, and

Whereas, in 1947, after establishing his medical practice in Wells River, Dr. Harry Rowe stood for election to the local school board and embarked on a public service odyssey that has continued into the 21st century, and

Whereas, Dr. Harry Rowe recognized that the expanding academic requirements for a sound high school education necessitated more resources than the area's small town high schools could provide, and he became a leader in the 20-year campaign to create the Blue Mountain Union school district and has been a much respected member of its board for many years, and

Whereas, Dr. Harry Rowe's school board service is highly noteworthy not only for its unusual longevity, the nation's longest according to a National School Boards Association survey, but also for his thoughtful role in the educational policy-making process, and

Whereas, the state board of education honored him as a Martha O'Connor Award recipient, and the Vermont School Boards Association recognized his unique contribution to public education when it presented him with the Robert T. Stafford Bell Award, and

Whereas, Dr. Harry Rowe will conclude his 61 year tenure of school board service on Town Meeting Day 2009, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the 61 years of extraordinary school board service of Dr. Harry Rowe of Wells River, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Harry Rowe in Wells River.