

No. R-126. House concurrent resolution honoring Roderick Leach of Plainfield for his extraordinary public service at the agency of transportation.

(H.C.R.98)

Offered by: Representative Ancel of Calais

Offered by: Senators Doyle, Cummings and Scott

Whereas, dedicated public servants are not uncommon among Vermont state government employees, but Roderick (Butch) Leach is a gentleman whose conscientiousness and admirable work ethic are truly unsurpassed, and

Whereas, his career in North Montpelier at the district 6 garage of the former highway department, later reorganized into the agency of transportation, is worthy of legislative recognition, and

Whereas, in 1956, Butch Leach's uncle, Bill Wild, at the time an employee at the garage, was able to secure employment for his 19-year-old nephew at the garage, and

Whereas, no one could possibly have envisioned on the day that Butch Leach first walked into the district 6 garage that he was beginning a career that would endure for an amazing 52 years, and

Whereas, his commitment to his job and aiding his fellow Vermonters traveling to their destinations during the hazardous winter months, are best exemplified by his often quoted comment that he would rather "run the equipment than eat," and

Whereas, this remark was evidently based in fact as Butch Leach accumulated over three years of sick leave during his over half-century on the job, and

Whereas, the attention and care he applied to his work-related activities was rewarded with a 52-year record that was blemished with neither a single accident nor an employment infraction, and

Whereas, Butch Leach left state service as simply as he arrived, arranging with his supervisor not to appear at work one Monday in May 2008, having not told any of his colleagues that he was about to end his 52 years of employment, during which he had been at work every single week, and

Whereas, Butch Leach's long-time colleagues decided that his departure from their midst could not go totally unrecognized, and in December 2008, on a rare day when the garage's employees were not on road servicing duty, they invited Butch to join them for lunch and surprised him by unveiling a well-designed sign dedicating the district's new salt and sand shed in his honor, and

Whereas, today, Friday, April 3, 2009, Butch Leach, his wife, daughter, and granddaughter, Shoshanah, are all gathered in the House chamber to honor Shoshanah's service as a page, and this, Butch Leach's first time ever in the state house, is a wonderful opportunity to honor him for a half century of superb job performance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Roderick Leach for his extraordinary public service at the agency of transportation, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Roderick Leach of Plainfield.