

No. R-144. Senate concurrent resolution expressing appreciation of the state house staff and Buildings and General Services security patrol for the professionalism they displayed during the legislative proceedings related to civil marriage legislation.

(S.C.R.20)

By Senators Racine, Ashe, Ayer, Bartlett, Brock, Campbell, Carris, Choate, Cummings, Doyle, Flanagan, Giard, Hartwell, Illuzzi, Kitchel, Kittell, Lyons, MacDonald, Maynard, Mazza, McCormack, Miller, Mullin, Nitka, Scott, Sears, Shumlin, Snelling, Starr and White,

Senate concurrent resolution expressing appreciation of the state house staff and buildings and general services security patrol for the professionalism they displayed during the legislative proceedings related to the civil marriage legislation

Whereas, during the past few weeks, the General Assembly has been engaged in emotionally intensive deliberations relative to civil marriage legislation, and

Whereas, these deliberations included Senate and House Committees on Judiciary hearings and meetings, a large public hearing that these committees jointly hosted in the well of the House, and debate on the floor of each legislative chamber, and

Whereas, all of these proceedings resulted in enormous crowds of Vermonters coming to the state house to witness and participate in the discussions, and

Whereas, aside from the large number of state house visitors, the volume of telephone calls and e-mails increased dramatically, and

Whereas, throughout this challenging time, the staff of the Sergeant at Arms' office, the Legislative Council, the Joint Fiscal Office, the House clerk's and Senate secretary's offices, and the employees of the Department of Buildings and General Services who work inside and outside the state house greeted the members of the public in a courteous and professional manner, be it in person or on the telephone, and

Whereas, state house and Buildings and General Services staff were unfailingly friendly and helpful, and were even able to smile through what were undoubtedly demanding and trying moments with the phones ringing incessantly and the crowds only continuing to grow, and

Whereas, the respect that all of these legislative and executive branch employees showed their fellow Vermonters who, regardless of their political persuasion and points of view, were exercising their rights to participate in the democratic process, is symbolic of the civility and decency that are at the core of Vermont's civic culture, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its appreciation to the state house staff and Buildings and General Services security patrol for the professionalism they displayed during the legislative proceedings related to the civil marriage legislation, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each legislative office mentioned in this resolution and to the commissioner of buildings and general services.