

No. R-193. House concurrent resolution in memory of George Gibby of Topsham.

(H.C.R.107)

Offered by: Representatives Davis of Washington and Conquest of Newbury

Whereas, George Gibby was a leader in promoting fire prevention and safety in Vermont and the nation, and

Whereas, he was born in 1910 and grew up in Winthrop, Massachusetts, and after graduating from high school was employed in his family's foundry, and

Whereas, after the foundry's closure, he entered a partnership with his father in a new printing business named Gibby Press that continued for 59 years, and

Whereas, while still residing in Winthrop, George Gibby served in several civic posts as a community hospital trustee, representative town meeting member, and, most indicative of his future public safety role in Vermont, as a squad captain with the local auxiliary fire department, and

Whereas, in 1952, he relocated his business and family to West Topsham, where he would reside for the next 57 years, and

Whereas, based on his firefighting experience in Massachusetts, in 1953, he was named the first chief of the newly formed Tri-Village Fire Department, and

Whereas, George Gibby recognized the importance of developing a skilled corps of firefighters in Vermont, worked as an instructor in the state

firefighting training program, and later served as the program's coordinator for the state's nine northern counties, and

Whereas, his outstanding reputation as a skilled firefighting instructor resulted in his appointment as the Vermont coordinator for the off-campus program of the National Fire Academy and as the volunteer representative for the New England district of the U.S. Fire Administration's Training Resources and Data Exchange, and

Whereas, in 2002, the U.S. Fire Administration presented George Gibby its J. Flaherty Casey Award in recognition of his exemplary service on behalf of firefighting education programs, and

Whereas, George Gibby along with his late wife Grace was an organizer of the Chop Point Camp and school in Woolwich, Maine, and

Whereas, for many years, he served as treasurer of the West Topsham Community Church, and he helped establish and served on the board of the Valley Health Center in East Corinth, and

Whereas, after nearly a century-long life, George Gibby died at the age of 98 on February 13, and his survivors include his children George, Grant, and Grace, nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of George Gibby of West Topsham, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of his children.