

No. R-202. House concurrent resolution in memory of Dr. Elizabeth C. Faris.

(H.C.R.137)

Offered by: Representatives Miller of Shaftsbury, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Komline of Dorset, Krawczyk of Bennington, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Morrissey of Bennington, Smith of Morristown and Wilson of Manchester

Offered by: Senators Hartwell, Sears and Shumlin

Whereas, Elizabeth (Cunningham) Faris graduated from the University of Rochester and earned a medical degree from Albany Medical College, where she was one of only five women in her class and where she met her husband, and

Whereas, Dr. Elizabeth C. Faris dedicated her medical career, in professional partnership with her husband, Dr. Arthur Faris, to serving as a caring and compassionate physician in the town of Shaftsbury, and they resided in a previous doctor's home that became their residence and office, and

Whereas, during the many years she practiced in Shaftsbury, Dr. Elizabeth Faris was fondly known as Dr. Bette, and she devoted much attention to the well-being of youngsters attending the Shaftsbury Elementary School, and

Whereas, early on, her fees were \$6.00 for an office visit, and alternative compensation was not unusual, including items such as baked goods and in one instance chickens, and

Whereas, Dr. Elizabeth Faris and her husband continued home visits after many other physicians had discontinued them, and when Medicare and

Medicaid were introduced, it was not unusual for them to extend the length of a consultation beyond the compensable time, and

Whereas, professional development was a priority for Dr. Elizabeth Faris, and for many years, even after retirement, she served as executive secretary of the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians, and the organization honored her as “the guiding light of the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians for decades,” and

Whereas, the town of Shaftsbury recognized the unique contributions of both Drs. Elizabeth and Arthur Faris when a reception called Faris Day was held in 1979 to mark the 25th anniversary of their practice, and

Whereas, she was a participant in the civic life of Shaftsbury as an active participant in local Democratic politics and as a justice of the peace, and

Whereas, as if a busy medical practice and raising four children with her husband were not enough activity, Dr. Elizabeth Faris pursued numerous hobbies and activities as an accomplished knitter and seamstress, gardener, hiker and camper, swimmer, music lover, and traveler, and late in life, she joined her husband as a fly fishing enthusiast, and

Whereas, the life of Dr. Elizabeth Faris, an amazing Renaissance woman, recently came to a close with her passing in April 2009, and her survivors include her husband, Dr. Arthur Faris, her children, Tom, Ann, twin sons Greg and Chris, and grandson Jaalid, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Elizabeth Faris of Shaftsbury, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Arthur Faris in Shaftsbury.