

No. R-216. House concurrent resolution honoring Gene E. Irons for three decades of extraordinary service as a Bennington Museum trustee.

(H.C.R.153)

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Krawczyk of Bennington and Mook of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, Gene Irons came east from California to attend Middlebury College from which she graduated, and

Whereas, she remained in Vermont, marrying Dr. John G. Irons, and they raised a family of three children, Jock, Carrie, and Malcolm, and have a grandson, Max, and

Whereas, her vocational pursuits included teaching, and she was the proprietor of the Old Bennington Country Store and the Yankee Notions Quilt Shop, and

Whereas, Gene Irons is a parishioner of the Second Congregational Church in Bennington, a member of the Quilters Guild, associated with the Girl Scouts, and has sung with the Bennington County Choral Society, and

Whereas, among all of Gene Irons' commendable professional and community activities, perhaps the most notable is her 30-year tenure on the Bennington Museum's board of directors, and

Whereas, Gene Irons' long service to the Bennington Museum has not been that of a typical trustee attending a few meetings per year with minimal direct involvement in the organization's daily affairs, and

Whereas, to the contrary, her trustee's agenda has entailed an intimate involvement with all aspects of the museum's administrative, developmental, and operational functions, and

Whereas, she served on numerous committees, covering every element of life at the Bennington Museum, and chaired the personnel committee when it finalized a personnel policy for the museum, the campaign steering committee, and the long-range planning committee, as well as the master plan group and the advisory council, and

Whereas, a highlight of her leadership at the museum was chairing the board of trustees from 1985 to 1990 and again from 1993 to 1997, and

Whereas, the scope of her role extended even farther than the most directly involved trustees when she stepped in to serve as the Bennington Museum's interim executive director in 1994 and again from 2001 to 2002, and

Whereas, after a truly unparalleled tenure of service as a Bennington Museum trustee, Gene Irons will be retiring in May 2009, and the museum's successes owe much to her perseverance and wisdom, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Gene E. Irons for three decades of extraordinary service as a Bennington Museum trustee, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Gene Irons and to the Bennington Museum.