

No. R-318. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Joan Wing.

(S.C.R.37)

By Senators Flory, Campbell, Carris, Doyle, Illuzzi, Mullin, Nitka and Snelling,

By Representatives Acinapura of Brandon, Andrews of Rutland City, Baker of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Cheney of Norwich, Courcelle of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, French of Shrewsbury, Grad of Moretown, Haas of Rochester, Helm of Castleton, Howard of Rutland City, Jewett of Ripton, Kilmartin of Newport City, Koch of Barre Town, Lippert of Hinesburg, Malcolm of Pawlet, Marek of Newfane, McNeil of Rutland Town, Potter of Clarendon, Smith of Mendon and Smith of Morristown,

Whereas, Joan Wing brought dignity and a wonderful sense of humor to the practice of law as a zealous advocate, a highly successful mediator, and a widely admired leader in the legal profession, and

Whereas, in being called to the bar, she was proudly continuing a family tradition that she extended into a third generation, and

Whereas, Joan Wing graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy and pursued her higher education at Castleton State College and Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York, and

Whereas, she read the law at Ryan Smith & Carbine Ltd., the law firm of which her grandfather was a founding partner and her father also became a partner and where she continued to practice for many years before becoming a solo practitioner, and

Whereas, early in Joan Wing's legal career, other lawyers recognized her leadership talents, and she was selected to serve on the board and then as chair of the young lawyers division of the Vermont Bar Association (VBA), and

Whereas, Joan Wing's familiarity with the organizational structure and activities of the VBA resulted in her election to its board of managers and ultimately to the VBA presidency, and when she assumed this prestigious position, her family became one of the very few nationwide that contributed three generations to the top elected position in a state bar association, and

Whereas, regionally, Joan Wing was elected to the board of directors and later the presidency of the New England Bar Association, and nationally, she ably represented the organized bar as a VBA delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates, and

Whereas, on two occasions, the VBA bestowed its President's Award on Joan Wing in recognition of her outstanding service to the legal profession, and

Whereas, as a member and president of the Sterry R. Waterman Inns of Court and as counsel for the Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers organization, she won much praise from her colleagues, and

Whereas, the professional esteem and respect accorded Joan Wing were perhaps best exemplified when the Vermont Supreme Court appointed her to the Professional Conduct (later Responsibility) Board, which she chaired with great distinction, and

Whereas, among her other professional leadership roles were serving as president of the Rutland County Court Diversion program and in 2009 serving on the Federal Judicial Nominating Advisory Committee, and

Whereas, her many civic and religious leadership roles included governance positions at the Rutland Area Retarded Citizens Association; on the Rutland City Police Commission, where she served as president and played an instrumental leadership role; and for Catholic Charities of Vermont, and

Whereas, this dedicated and energetic lawyer-community leader, prominent Rutland citizen, and daughter of Mary Wing and the late Leonard Wing, Jr., wife of Alvin B. Figiel, mother of Mark Foley and Megan Foley, and grandmother of Jack, Abigail and John Foley died tragically in an automobile accident on December 8, 2009, and

Whereas, her family, colleagues and many friends have lost a special person in their lives, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Joan Wing, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Alvin Figiel, Mary Wing, Mark Foley, and Megan Foley, all in Rutland.