

No. R-441. House concurrent resolution honoring Meredith Sumner for her dedicated public service as a legislative council attorney.

(H.C.R.320)

Offered by: All Members of the House of Representatives

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, for over two decades, Meredith Sumner has been responsible for drafting legislation assigned to the house committee on general, housing, and military affairs and the senate committee on economic development, housing, and general affairs and its predecessor, and

Whereas, these committees' broad jurisdictions cover housing policy, many aspects of labor law, and the regulation of alcoholic beverages, and

Whereas, she has drafted legislation intended to improve the safety of the state's housing stock and has authorized wine tastings at a variety of venues, and

Whereas, other matters which have drawn her attention as the drafter for these committees are the organization and operation of the Vermont National Guard and the state recognition of the Abenaki Indians, and

Whereas, Meredith Sumner has also served as the legislative council attorney for the legislature's committees on health and welfare, writing laws regulating the state's health care system, prohibiting smoking in public places, and directing the management of cemeteries, and

Whereas, as a clever wordsmith, she can apply her flair for the English language to the technical requirements of drafting laws, and

Whereas, more recent arrivals on the council staff have benefited from Meredith Sumner's drafting guidance and knowledge of the legislative process, and

Whereas, she has proven to be an excellent drafter and has perceptively translated legislators' broadly stated public policy wishes into well-crafted bill drafts that are comprehensible to individuals who are not experts on the topic being addressed, and

Whereas, after nearly a quarter-century on the legislative council's legal staff, when the work of the 71st general assembly is concluded, Meredith Sumner will close her state house office door for the final time and complete her excellent public service tenure with the legislative council, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Meredith Sumner for her dedicated public service as a legislative council attorney and wishes her a happy retirement, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Meredith Sumner.