

**No. R-75. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Riverside Grange on its centennial anniversary.**

(S.C.R.13)

By Senators Kitchel, Benning and MacDonald,

By Representatives Conquest of Newbury, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Davis of Washington and Winters of Williamstown,

*Whereas*, the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, best known as the Grange, was established on December 4, 1867 in Washington, D.C., as a national agricultural advocacy organization, and

*Whereas*, a stellar example of a local Grange unit is the Riverside Grange #455 which was organized on December 29, 1910 under the leadership of A.E. Whitcomb with the participation of 41 charter members, and

*Whereas*, its meetings were held at the Waits River School, and the first Master of Riverside Grange was E.S. Locke, and

*Whereas*, in 1918, the Riverside Grange voted to send a delegate, Robert Hodge, to the State Grange Conference in Burlington, connecting Riverside Grange members with colleagues from across Vermont, and

*Whereas*, in 1934, local evening meetings became more readily viable with the installation of electric lights in the Riverside Grange hall, and

*Whereas*, 1937 was the year Riverside Grange members took to the airwaves, broadcasting a Grange Lecturer's presentation on the radio, and

*Whereas*, the Riverside Grange conducted neighboring activities in the community and during World War II sent packages to local men stationed overseas, and

*Whereas*, after many years, in 1952, the East Orange Church became the Riverside Grange's new home and soon thereafter, in 1953, George Richardson led the effort to purchase the "White Rabbit" building as a new grange hall, and

*Whereas*, the Riverside Grange has won state and national Grange awards and has conducted many charitable fundraising appeals and community service activities, and

*Whereas*, a new home for the Riverside Grange became a reality with the purchase of the West Topsham School in 1977, and

*Whereas*, Riverside Grange member and former Representative Kermit Richardson has been honored with election to three National Grange offices, and

*Whereas*, after a century of fraternal and community service activities, the Riverside Grange looks back on its first 100 years with pride as it anticipates a bright future, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the Riverside Grange on its centennial anniversary, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Riverside Grange #455.