

**No. R-126. House concurrent resolution congratulating the town of Guilford as it celebrates its 250th anniversary.**

(H.C.R.89)

Offered by: Representative Hebert of Vernon

Offered by: Senators Galbraith and White

Whereas, on April 2, 1754, Governor Benning Wentworth Esq. of the Province of New Hampshire granted a charter of incorporation for a six-miles-square tract in the future Windham County “beginning at the South East Corner of Hallifax [sic]...,” and

Whereas, because the charter required cultivation of ten percent of the tract by 1761 and that goal would be missed, an extension was granted for three years, and then further extended in 1764, and

Whereas, despite the long delay, on May 19, 1772, Guilford held its first town meeting at which Samuel Nichols was elected moderator and John Shepardson town clerk, and

Whereas, Guilford would evolve into a town of farms, mills, and worthy citizens, a number of whom would sacrifice their lives in defense of our nation and

Whereas, the town has selected 1761 as the date of its legal establishment, and

Whereas, in order to commemorate its official 250th anniversary, the town of Guildford has planned a festive year-long celebration featuring a monthly

themed dance, which in February was centered on Valentine Waltzes and in March is focused on Telemark (Norwegian) dances, and

Whereas, a program marking the role of Guilford in the Civil War will take place in April, and Independence Day will be observed in all its glory, and

Whereas, the true highlight of the birthday bash will be “The Big Weekend” from August 12–14, featuring a contra dance on Friday night, a Saturday filled with a Guilford 250th parade, continuing events at the Guilford Fairgrounds, a family barbeque, fireworks, and a reunion of descendants of Native Americans and early Guilford Settlers, and

Whereas, a Festival Service of Thanksgiving, in which clergy from different churches will offer their prayers of thanks, will close the weekend on Sunday, and

Whereas, this wonderful year of celebrations is a grand and memorable way to observe 250 years of community life in Guilford, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the town of Guilford as it celebrates its 250th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Guilford town clerk and the Guilford Historical Society.