

No. R-188. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the town of Pittsford.

(H.C.R.154)

Offered by: Representative Shaw of Pittsford

Offered by: Senator Flory

Whereas, on October 12, 1761, New Hampshire's Governor Benning Wentworth granted a charter to a group of proprietors for the town of Pitt's Ford (later changed to Pittsford), in honor of British Prime Minister William Pitt and in recognition of a ford on Otter Creek, which crosses the granted tract, and the new town's boundaries were described as "Beginning at the northwesterly corner of Rutland,..." and

Whereas, among the earliest, if not the first, settlers were half brothers Gideon and Benjamin Cooley who arrived in 1767 to farm, and

Whereas, the first existing record of a proprietors' meeting dates from 1771 and was held in Pittsford at the home of Ebenezer Hopkins who was elected moderator for the meeting, and

Whereas, in 1780, Fort Vengeance was constructed to protect local residents against British soldiers and in response to recent Indian attacks, and

Whereas, the first successful effort to organize a religious congregation occurred in April 1784 when the Congregationalist Church was established, and a Baptist Church followed soon thereafter; and the first structure to serve as a religious (for the Baptist Church) and secular gathering place was a log meeting house built in 1786, and

Whereas, a few acres that form a triangle in Sugar Hollow are known among native fern enthusiasts as the fern capital east of the Mississippi, and Pittsford summer resident, fern authority, and author, Margaret Slosson, has identified a new variety of beech fern that is named for her, and

Whereas, the marble quarries of Pittsford have long been known near and far as a major resource for a much-sought-after construction material, and the railroad provided a means to transport this natural resource, and

Whereas, Pittsford has been home to iron blast furnaces and the Granger Company's handsomely molded cast iron stoves, abundant sheep farms, and the Vermont State Sanatorium for tuberculosis patients, and it is the location of the ice cave located between Bald and East peaks, and

Whereas, the town of Pittsford will celebrate its 250th anniversary at the annual Pittsford Day festivities on Saturday, June 25, and the Pittsford Historical Society, the Lothrop School, and the Maclure Library, which will host a series of programs highlighting the town's history, will also mark the occasion, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the town of Pittsford and extends best wishes to the town, and be it further

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