

No. R-230. House concurrent resolution congratulating the town of Woodstock on its 250th anniversary.

(H.C.R.181)

Offered by: Representative Clarkson of Woodstock

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, the town of Woodstock was established as the result of a charter that New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth issued on July 10, 1761, and in 1765, Timothy Knox became the new town's first settler, and

Whereas, in 1786, the general assembly designated Woodstock as the shire town or county seat and home of the county court for Windsor County, a status it has maintained for 215 years, and

Whereas, in the years before Montpelier was designated as the permanent capital of Vermont, Woodstock served as one of the towns in which the legislature convened, and

Whereas, the Ottauquechee River, which flows through the center of Woodstock, provided a power source for manufacturing facilities, and

Whereas, in the 1840s, the population of Woodstock had reached its zenith at 3,400, making it, at the time, the third largest town in the state, and

Whereas, Woodstock was a center of medical education from 1826 to 1856 when the town was home to the Vermont College of Medicine which at the time was one of only six medical colleges in New England, and

Whereas, in the 1870s, the opening of the Woodstock Railroad, extending 14 miles from Woodstock to the rail hub of White River Junction, brought

passenger rail service and inaugurated Woodstock's status as a favorite tourist destination, and it led to the construction of the original Woodstock Inn, and

Whereas, the first golf course in Vermont opened in Woodstock in 1895, and in 1934, the nation's original powered rope tow for alpine skiing was built on a slope outside the town, and

Whereas, Woodstock was the home of environmentalist George Perkins Marsh, railroad empire builder Frederick Billings, and conservationists Laurance and Mary Rockefeller (granddaughter of Frederick Billings), and Laurance Rockefeller built a modern Woodstock Inn reminiscent of the 19th century original, and the magnificent mansion and beautiful grounds that they all once owned are preserved as the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park, and

Whereas, 2011 marks the 250th anniversary of Woodstock's founding, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the town of Woodstock on its 250th anniversary, and be it further

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