

**No. R-259. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Cambridge municipal emergency and highway officials on their superb response during the 2011 spring floods.**

(H.C.R.196)

Offered by: Representative Howard of Cambridge

Offered by: Senator Westman

Whereas, on the night of April 26, 2011, an extremely heavy rain fell on the town of Cambridge, and

Whereas, a combination of this large and sudden onslaught of precipitation plus the seasonal snow melt resulted in a rapid rise in the water levels of the Lamoille River and its tributaries, and

Whereas, the high water levels led to flooding in areas that had not been under water in more than a decade, and

Whereas, the flood waters isolated local businesses and residences and trapped individuals in their own homes, and

Whereas, for a period of time, routes to hospitals were blocked, and the village of Jeffersonville, the commercial heart of Cambridge, became totally isolated, and

Whereas, emergency service personnel were suddenly confronted with multiple requests for assistance, all of which justified quick attention, including emergency rescue operations, evacuations, assisting highway officials, and responding to medical situations, and

Whereas, during the period of the flood emergency, 113 persons were evacuated from their homes and they either were placed in shelters or arranged

to stay with family or friends, and 150 homes were checked for safety purposes, and

Whereas, as the waters began to recede, local firefighters were required to remove water from flooded basements and clear debris that was blocking previously flooded homes, and

Whereas, highway crews were required to make emergency repairs to local roadways to make them passable until more long-term repairs could be arranged, and

Whereas, all of the Cambridge municipal emergency and highway officials worked diligently and effectively to alleviate the many problems that arose during the flood and after the waters of the Lamoille River and its tributaries had receded, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Cambridge municipal emergency and highway officials on their superb response during the 2011 spring floods, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Cambridge town clerk, the Cambridge rescue squad, and the Cambridge fire department.