

No. R-310. House concurrent resolution honoring Jan Sotirakis of Pittsford for her extraordinary public service following Tropical Storm Irene.

(H.C.R.235)

Offered by: Representatives Eckhardt of Chittenden, Shaw of Pittsford, Acinapura of Brandon, Burditt of West Rutland, Buxton of Tunbridge, Canfield of Fair Haven, Dakin of Chester, Degree of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Fagan of Rutland City, Fisher of Lincoln, Hebert of Vernon, Komline of Dorset, McNeil of Rutland Town, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Spengler of Colchester, Till of Jericho and Turner of Milton

Offered by: Senator Flory

Whereas, in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene, Jan Sotirakis of Pittsford, who is a life member of the Chittenden Rescue Squad, demonstrated herself to be a truly extraordinary coordinator and promoter of emergency support services under circumstances perhaps only comparable to the 1927 flood, and

Whereas, her response to this unexpected emergency and the initiative she exhibited in the days and weeks following the storm are worthy of special praise from this legislature, and

Whereas, as Jan Sotirakis realized the massive scope of the disaster especially in Bridgewater, Killington, Pittsfield, and Stockbridge, she quickly contacted the Chittenden Fire Department and offered a plan to transport supplies to nearby communities, and

Whereas, she established a contact in each town and arranged for the transportation logistics, including using either four-wheel-drive vehicles or

ATVs in order to traverse roads that were otherwise closed in order to reach local disaster relief centers, and

Whereas, the items required included food for both residents and their pets, clothes, medicines, and cleaning supplies, and

Whereas, under her initiation and coordination, over 120 trucks loaded with required necessities were delivered to very appreciative residents, and

Whereas, to accomplish this worthy mission, Jan Sotirakis assembled a cadre of volunteers from the Chittenden Rescue Squad, its fire department, and the Barstow Memorial School PTO that at its peak numbered 90 individuals, and

Whereas, in order that supplies not obtainable directly could be purchased and distributed forthwith, she simultaneously conducted an approximately \$50,000 fundraising effort, and

Whereas, the money raised was also used for grants to individuals whose names were on town clerks' lists as having lost all their possessions, and grants of \$100 at Thanksgiving and \$250 at Christmas were made to families in need due to flood losses, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Jan Sotirakis of Pittsford for her extraordinary public service following Tropical Storm Irene, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jan Sotirakis in Pittsford.