

No. R-335. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock on its 75th anniversary.

(H.C.R.259)

Offered by: Representatives Clarkson of Woodstock and Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, one of the treasures of Windsor County is the intimate family-friendly Suicide Six Ski Area located in Woodstock, and

Whereas, in the middle 1930s, Wallace “Bunny” Bertram was looking to expand his rudimentary Gilbert’s Hill ski area and identified nearby Hill No. 6 as a possibility, and when a friend predicted it would be suicide to ski down the steep slope, Bertram knew the site was ideal, and

Whereas, Suicide Six opened on Christmas Day 1937, charging \$1.00 for a lift ticket and \$8.00 for a season’s pass, and

Whereas, the Fisk Trophy Race was premiered during the opening season and is now the nation’s oldest continual ski race, and

Whereas, also of historic vintage is the Woodstock Ski Runner organization, established and still located at Suicide Six, and which today is the oldest ski club in the eastern United States, and

Whereas, the original rope tow was replaced in 1954 with a Poma lift that “Pommy” Pomalski installed, and

Whereas, in 1961, Laurance S. and Mary Rockefeller purchased the ski area and continued its tradition of serving local families as well as guests at the Woodstock Inn which they also owned, and

Whereas, beginning in the middle 1970s, a number of improvements were introduced at Suicide Six, beginning with trail improvements in 1975 and new lifts, including Chair I, featuring Vermont's first Borvig lift (1976); the J-Bar surface lift (1977); and Chair II, a Poma lift (1978), and

Whereas, other enhancements included the opening of a snowmaking system in 1977; the construction of a modern base lodge in 1978; and snow grooming machines with a hydraulic tiller that appeared during the 1982–1983 skiing season, and

Whereas, in 1982, Suicide Six hosted the first snurfer competition, an unusual event soon known far beyond Vermont as snowboarding, and

Whereas, Suicide Six is celebrating its 75th anniversary season with special events and remains a small and family-friendly ski resort that is now under the ownership of the Woodstock Foundation, a trust which Laurance and Mary Rockefeller established, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock on its 75th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Chuck Vanderstreet, director of recreation at Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock.