

No. R-378. Senate concurrent resolution honoring former Representative and Senator Robert T. Gannett on his 95th birthday.

(S.C.R.39)

By All Members of the Senate,

By All Members of the House,

Whereas, Robert (Bob) Gannett's presence graced the General Assembly during his four terms in the House of Representatives as the member from Brattleboro (1953–1960) and later for ten terms as the senator from Windham County (1973–1992), and

Whereas, when the newly elected Representative Bob Gannett arrived in Montpelier in January 1953, his legal expertise as a respected attorney was acknowledged with his assignment to the Committee on Judiciary, and

Whereas, in 1955, Representative Bob Gannett was appointed to the Committee on Appropriations, and his rapid mastery of budgetary minutiae was a prelude to his service as committee chair during the 1957 and 1959 biennia, and

Whereas, a keen observer of the parliamentary process, in 1957 he served as Speaker Pro Tempore while presiding over the House's deliberations, and

Whereas, near the close of the 1960 Adjourned Session, Representative Bob Gannett's final year in the House of Representatives, his colleagues voted him President of the House of 1959, an organization the members formed for the purpose of holding reunions, and

Whereas, in 1972, the voters of Windham County elected Robert Gannett as their new senator, and he became one of the Senate's most esteemed members, and

Whereas, in his initial senatorial biennium, Senator Bob Gannett sat on the Finance, General and Military, and Highway Traffic committees, and

Whereas, in 1975, he resumed his role as a legislative budget scrutinizer with his appointment as Vice Chair of the Committee on Appropriations, and he subsequently earned the rare distinction of chairing this all-important committee in both the House and the Senate, and

Whereas, the Committee on General and Military Affairs also benefited from his astute leadership as vice chair and chair, and while serving as Chair of the Committee on Institutions, Senator Bob Gannett was a strong advocate, as was his late wife Sarah Alden (Aldie) Derby Gannett, of state financial assistance for the establishment of a permanent corridor for the Long Trail, helping to create a legacy that will endure for generations to come, and

Whereas, during his senatorial career, his committee assignments also included Senate Government Operations, Senate Transportation, and Joint Fiscal, and his wise parliamentary counsel proved invaluable on both the committees on Senate Rules and Joint Rules, and

Whereas, on the morning of Sunday, April 26, 1992, Senator Bob Gannett concluded his long and illustrious legislative service when he offered the final motion of the 1992 Adjourned Session directing that the President of the

Senate appoint a committee to inform the Governor that the Senate was ready to adjourn sine die, and

Whereas, his wealth of common sense, wise judgment, and concern for the well-being of Vermonters was always drawn upon in his decision-making process, and his service in the General Assembly, as an attorney, and in the community at large epitomized the work of a genuine statesman, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Representative and Senator Robert T. Gannett on his 95th birthday and extends to him best wishes on this special occasion, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Robert Gannett in Brattleboro.