

No. R-17. Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the sestercentennial anniversary of the town of Middlesex.

(S.C.R.1)

By Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Pollina,

By Representative Klein of East Montpelier,

Whereas, on June 8, 1763, New Hampshire Royal Governor Benning Wentworth granted a charter to a group of grantees (proprietors) for the new town of Middlesex in the territory known as the New Hampshire Grants, and the geographic boundaries were described as “Beginning at the southerly or South Easterly Corner of Waterbury, on the Northerly side of Onion or French River (So Called) from thence Runing Easterly up said River (& bounding on the same) so far as to make it six Miles on a streight Line allowing the same to be Perpendicular with the Easterly Line of said Waterbury,” and

Whereas, the proprietors gathered for the first time in New Milford, Connecticut on May 10, 1770, electing Partridge Thatcher as moderator and Samuel Averill as clerk, and

Whereas, they met for the first time in Vermont at Sunderland on October 13, 1783, the same year Middlesex became the first town settled in present-day Washington County, and

Whereas, on August 14, 1787, in Middlesex, the first proprietors’ meeting was held at the home of Lovewell Warren, one of the town’s first settlers, and

Whereas, having completed transacting their duties to assign lots, the proprietors’ role was concluded, and the first official Middlesex town meeting occurred on March 29, 1790, at the home of Seth Putnam, and

Whereas, this first town meeting elected Levi Putnam moderator, Seth Putnam town clerk, and both along with Thomas Mead were chosen as the first members of the Middlesex Selectboard, and

Whereas, the first representative from the town of Middlesex to serve in the General Assembly was Samuel Harris in 1791, and

Whereas, throughout the 19th century, the town of Middlesex grew as a community of farms, forests, and especially mills in the area of the town known as Putnamville until their destruction in the 1927 flood, and

Whereas, the construction in Middlesex of a hydroelectric plant along the Winooski River was a major technological advancement for central Vermont, and

Whereas, 2013 marks 250 years since the Middlesex charter was granted, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the sestercentennial anniversary of the town of Middlesex’s legal establishment, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Middlesex Town Clerk.