

No. R-25. Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the sescentennial anniversary of the town of Worcester.

(S.C.R.9)

By Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Pollina,

By Representatives Peltz of Woodbury and Smith of Morristown,

Whereas, on June 8, 1763, New Hampshire Royal Governor Benning Wentworth granted a charter to a group of grantees (proprietors) for the town of Worcester located in the area known as the New Hampshire grants, and

Whereas, the boundaries of the town, which today encompass a segment of Washington County, were described in the charter as “Beginning at the North Easterly Corner of Stow from thence running Southerly by the Easterly line of Stow Six Miles to the North West Corner of Middlesex from thence Easterly by said Middlesex about six Miles to the North Easterly corner thereof,” and

Whereas, this evergreen and hardwood thickly forested landscape was the settling point for John Ridlon and George Martin who became the first Worcester residents in 1797, and

Whereas, the first town meeting was held on March 3, 1803 at which John Young was elected town clerk, but the voters of Worcester did not elect a member of the house of representatives until selecting James Green in 1808, and

Whereas, in 1816, Worcester voters failed to assemble for a town meeting as their number had fallen dramatically due to repeated crop failures, and the town lost its status as an organized municipality, and

Whereas, in 1821, Joseph Wing, a Montpelier justice of the peace, issued a call for a Worcester town meeting which was held on March 28 of that year at the home of Amasa Brown who was selected as town clerk as Worcester rejoined the roster of Vermont’s organized towns, and

Whereas, a further town meeting was held on April 20, 1821 at which a municipal property tax of eight mills on the dollar was approved, and a town school district was established, and

Whereas, aside from farming, timber harvesting provided a livelihood for many 19th-century residents of Worcester, and by 1854, the town could boast 12 sawmills, and

Whereas, throughout its 250-year history, Worcester has retained its rural ambiance and beauty, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the sestercentennial anniversary of the town of Worcester, and be it further

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