

**No. R-236. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Yankee Male Chorus on its 60th anniversary.**

(S.C.R.28)

By Senator White,

*Whereas*, the Yankee Male Chorus (YMC) is a unique vocal ensemble that assembles each August for musical camaraderie in Northern New England, and

*Whereas*, the choristers, consisting of approximately 90 singers from glee clubs in the New England and Middle Atlantic states, gather for a brief, but always memorable, schedule of a single rehearsal and four concerts, and

*Whereas*, this wonderful tradition of choral music-making began in 1953, when the first YMC concerts were performed as part of a Massachusetts town's municipal celebration and in Grafton, VT which was observing its bicentennial, and

*Whereas*, since the inaugural Vermont concert, the White Church in Grafton has served as the home base for the YMC's musical activities, and

*Whereas*, Rolland E. Heermance, the founder of the Catskill Glee Club, led the YMC as its first regular conductor until his death in 1960, and other principal conductors have included Clifford Ormsby, Lawrence Coulter, Bruce J. Wagner, J. Brian Steeves, Nelson G. Burhans, David Lance, and most recently, Michael Wright of the Albany Mendelssohn Club, and

*Whereas*, other musicians associated with the YMC have included visiting accompanists, soloists, and composer Stephanie Gelfan, a native of Grafton, and

*Whereas*, prominent Vermont poet William Mundell, librarians C. Fred Seeger, William Yates, and William Murray, managers Nelson Burhans and Arnold Jones Jr., and staff assistants Pete Harrison and John Souza have contributed to the organization's continuing success, and

*Whereas*, in 2013, the YMC celebrated six decades of glorious choral music with performances at the First Baptist Church in Chester, St. James Episcopal Church in Keene, New Hampshire, Kurn Hattin Homes in Westminster, and culminating with its special concert at the White Church in Grafton, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the Yankee Male Chorus on its 60th anniversary, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Yankee Male Chorus.