

No. R-249. House concurrent resolution congratulating Steven Bronstein of Marshfield on the selection of his menorah for depiction on the 2013 U.S. Postal Service Hanukkah Stamp.

(H.C.R.181)

Offered by: Representative Ancel of Calais

Whereas, Steven Bronstein earned his college degree in biology, became a lab assistant at the University of Vermont, and at that time did not envision a blacksmithing career, and

Whereas, as a woodworking hobbyist, he molded an otherwise unobtainable metal chisel using his home gas stove, and

Whereas, the chisel creation process proved enticing, so he enrolled in a blacksmithing workshop where proudly he created a fire poker, and

Whereas, Steve Bronstein decided to switch careers and accepted a blacksmith's position at Shelburne Farms, and

Whereas, after advancing his newly acquired skills, Steven Bronstein decided to establish his own blacksmithing practice, now located in Marshfield, and

Whereas, although located in a rural setting, Steve Bronstein thinks of himself as an urban blacksmith and seeks to develop marketable products, and

Whereas, Steven Bronstein designs lighting, vases, and clocks, and Judaic items, including menorahs, and

Whereas, in 2013, the U.S. Postal Service decided to issue its fifth Hanukkah stamp, and in a search for a menorah to depict on the stamp, one of its art directors discovered a Steve Bronstein menorah in a Washington, D.C. area craft shop, and

Whereas, Steve Bronstein's distinctive iron-forged menorah was selected, and he was both surprised and honored to learn of the U.S. Postal Service's decision, and

Whereas, the Hanukkah stamp depicts Steve Bronstein's menorah, with a lighted candle in each of the menorah's eight branches and its central stand, that in combination glow brightly against a dark background, and

Whereas, across the top of the stamp the word Hanukkah, which in Hebrew means dedication and commemorates the rededication of the ritually restored Israelite Temple in Jerusalem, appears in bold, yellow letters, and

Whereas, the menorah pictured in the stamp will be donated to the Smithsonian Institution, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Steven Bronstein of Marshfield on the selection of his menorah for depiction on the 2013 U.S. Postal Service's Hanukkah Stamp, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Steve Bronstein.