

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 213

House concurrent resolution in memory of Margaret Hurley Franzen of Montpelier

Offered by: Representatives Hooper of Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, Batchelor of Derby, Branagan of Georgia, Burke of Brattleboro, Christie of Hartford, Cole of Burlington, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Davis of Washington, Fay of St. Johnsbury, Fisher of Lincoln, French of Randolph, Gallivan of Chittenden, Grad of Moretown, Head of South Burlington, Hoyt of Norwich, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Klein of East Montpelier, Lenex of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Martin of Wolcott, McCormack of Burlington, McFaun of Barre Town, Michelsen of Hardwick, Moran of Wardsboro, O'Brien of Richmond, Partridge of Windham, Pearson of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, South of St. Johnsbury, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Waterbury, Stevens of Shoreham, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, and Waite-Simpson of Essex

Offered by: Senator Cummings

Whereas, Peg Franzen was a giant among advocates for human rights, whose portfolio of causes included persons with disabilities, workers' rights, and universal health care, and

Whereas, she was educated at Emmanuel College and Georgetown University, and studied feminist liberation theology at the Women's Theological Center, and

Whereas, Peg Franzen was a founding member of the Vermont Center for Independent Living in Montpelier, and

Whereas, she was a leader at the Vermont Workers' Center (VWC) in Burlington, including working at the Workers' Rights Hotline, serving on the its Coordinating Committee as an at-large member, as treasurer, and from 2009–2012 as its much-admired president, and

Whereas, through her leadership, the VWC assumed a more prominent State House and statewide presence, and became a catalyst in the national movement for workers' rights, and

Whereas, one of her other accomplishments was cofounding the Peace and Justice Center in Burlington, and

Whereas, Peg Franzen established the annual Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) Walk, that raises hundreds of thousands of dollars for Vermont's largest homeless shelter, and

Whereas, most recently, Peg Franzen served on the Advisory Committee of the Green Mountain Care Board where she assisted in designing the future Green Mountain Care plan, and

Whereas, Peg Franzen died on November 9, 2013, and her survivors include her spouse, Joyce Werntgen, former husband, Herbert Franzen, children, Lisa, Matthew, and Michael, stepsons, Kurt, Neal, and Eric, two grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, a great-grandson, and brother, Robert, and

Whereas, on December 10, 2013 at the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City, Peg Franzen was honored posthumously for her national human rights legacy, and on December 15, 2013, Vermonters remembered her at a celebration held at the Old Labor Hall in Barre, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends condolences to the family and friends of Peg Franzen, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Joyce Werntgen, the Vermont Center for Independent Living, and the Vermont Workers' Center.