

# State of Vermont

## Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

### Senate Concurrent Resolution

By All Members of the Senate,

By All Members of the House,

**S.C.R. 30.** Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Senator and former Representative Sally Fox of South Burlington.

*Whereas*, Senator Sally Fox led an exemplary life dedicated to public service, including representing the citizens of Vermont in the General Assembly, and

*Whereas*, she was a native Nebraskan, graduated from the University of Wisconsin, earned a law degree at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and concluded her eastward journey when she settled in Vermont, and

*Whereas*, in 1986, Sally Fox's strong desire to engage in the public policy arena and work for a civil society that treated all Vermonters fairly and without prejudice inspired her to seek a seat in the House of Representatives, and

*Whereas*, for seven consecutive bienniums, Sally Fox was a House member from Essex, and strove to turn into legislation her deeply held beliefs in equity and social justice, and

*Whereas*, as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Sally Fox played a leading role in the crafting and enactment of Act 220, establishing the Family Court, and she took great pride in witnessing this judicial innovation for addressing family-law-related matters, and

*Whereas*, as Chair of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Sally Fox focused her attention on improving the effectiveness and fairness of the State's criminal and juvenile justice systems, and she viewed her leadership in enacting Act 55 of 1991, which lowered the legal definition of an alcoholically impaired driver from a blood alcohol content level of 0.10 to 0.08, as a major contribution to highway safety in Vermont, and

*Whereas*, as Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations, she sought to preserve the social safety net protecting Vermonters, while still addressing the State's fiscal requirements, and

*Whereas*, the members of the House Democratic Caucus respected Sally Fox's ingenuity, initiative, and leadership skills, electing her its Deputy Majority Leader for the 1997–1998 Biennium, and

*Whereas*, after concluding her House membership in 2000, Sally Fox endeavored to improve the lives of Vermonters as Director of Family Court Operations, as Policy Director of Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, as the Coordinator for the City of Burlington's Offender Reentry Program, and as the Government Affairs Director for the Vermont State Colleges, and

*Whereas*, in 2010, Sally Fox won a Senate seat representing Chittenden County, and her new legislative duties included sitting on the Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations and service on several joint committees, including cochairing the Mental Health Oversight Committee, and

*Whereas*, she was an active participant in a number of community organizations, and

*Whereas*, after battling a rare form of sarcoma, Sally Fox died on January 10, 2014, at the age of 62, leaving her husband, Michael Sirotkin, sons, Jacob and Jesse, and many friends and admirers among her legislative colleagues and throughout Vermont, and

*Whereas*, her presence will be missed in the Vermont State House, and the large outpouring of mourners at her funeral was a moving tribute to Senator Sally Fox and her passionate commitment to assisting Vermont's most vulnerable citizens, *now therefore be it*

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

That the General Assembly mourns the passing of Senator Sally Fox of South Burlington and extends its sincere condolences to her family, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to her husband and each of her sons.