

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. 58. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Greenwood School and documentary filmmaker Ken Burns on the premiere of *The Address*.

Whereas, established by Thomas and Andrea Scheidler, the Greenwood School, in Putney, has a combined day and boarding student population consisting of boys in grades 6–12 who, though bright and academically talented, must cope with learning differences and disabilities, and

Whereas, patient and deeply caring teachers work with these extraordinary students, empowering them to achieve their true potential, and

Whereas, the joy and success these boys experience, under the guidance of Headmaster Stewart Miller, might be all but impossible in a more traditional educational setting, and

Whereas, a special challenge presented to Greenwood School students is to memorize and recite the Gettysburg Address, and the students are offered encouragement and attentive faculty support to achieve this ambitious goal, and

Whereas, although countless American school children memorize the entire Gettysburg Address, for a student with a learning difference or disability this assignment is perceived as insurmountable, and

Whereas, the Greenwood School's remarkable confidence-building and scholastic exercise came to the attention of the famous documentary filmmaker Ken Burns who decided the entire nation should witness this inspiring and touching current-day recitation of American history, and

Whereas, Ken Burns and the Greenwood School collaborated on the production of a superb documentary film, appropriately titled *The Address*, that portrays the boys' struggling and overcoming their apprehensions as they recite with pride this famous American speech, and

Whereas, *The Address* was premiered at the Latchis Theatre on April 2, 2014, before "a seriously sold out" and enthusiastic audience, and

Whereas, its broadcast premier occurred two weeks later, when the film was televised nationwide on PBS, and

Whereas, *The Address* documents this special Greenwood School event and highlights its important educational mission, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Greenwood School and documentary filmmaker Ken Burns on the premiere of *The Address*, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Greenwood School and to Ken Burns.