

No. R-178. House concurrent resolution honoring Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling on his exemplary law enforcement career.

(H.C.R.135)

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington, Bissonnette of Winooski, Cole of Burlington, Gonzalez of Winooski, Krowinski of Burlington, McCormack of Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pearson of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Sullivan of Burlington, and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, in 1986, Michael Schirling, then only in his mid-teens, started as a junior rescue squad member in Colchester and, in 1987, the town of Colchester hired him as a part-time emergency dispatcher, and

Whereas, he also served at a young age with the city of Winooski Police Department, and

Whereas, in 1989, the Burlington Police Department hired Michael Schirling, then a full-time University of Vermont (UVM) student and only 19 years of age, as an auxiliary officer, and

Whereas, although department policy now prohibits the hiring of police officers that young, it is extremely fortunate this was not the case in 1989, and

Whereas, after he earned a political science degree at UVM, the Burlington Police Department hired Michael Schirling as a full-time member of the force, and

Whereas, Michael Schirling's affinity for law enforcement was apparent during his service as a patrol officer and detective, and

Whereas, he assumed special assignments as an investigator and then director at the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations and, later, as the cofounder and commander of the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and

Whereas, returning to uniform duty, Michael Schirling was assigned as a patrol lieutenant and then as the department's administrative lieutenant, this latter role being excellent preparation for his promotion to deputy chief, and

Whereas, Michael Schirling's extensive and varied field and administrative experiences made him a superb choice to serve as Burlington Police Chief, a post to which the city appointed him in 2008, and

Whereas, in recent years, the Burlington Police Department has won four major awards from the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and

Whereas, after seven years as chief and over a quarter-century working in law enforcement, Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling will conclude his outstanding tenure as chief on June 30, 2015, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling on his exemplary law enforcement career, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling.