

No. R-228. House concurrent resolution honoring University of Vermont Dean of Education and Social Services Fayneese S. Miller.

(H.C.R.174)

Offered by: Representatives Ram of Burlington, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Christie of Hartford, Cupoli of Rutland City, Donovan of Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Jerman of Essex, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Lenex of Shelburne, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Manwaring of Wilmington, McCormack of Burlington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Potter of Clarendon, Rachelson of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Whereas, Fayneese Miller is an innovative academic committed to social justice and excellence in teaching, and

Whereas, after graduating from Hampton University and earning a Ph.D. from Texas Christian University, she joined the faculty of Brown University, and

Whereas, during her distinguished 20-year tenure at Brown, Fayneese Miller served as an associate professor of education and human development, led the university's Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, and was Brown's first coordinator and chair of ethnic studies, and

Whereas, in 2005, the University of Vermont (UVM) persuaded her to move north and become the Dean of Education and Social Services, a role that she has performed enthusiastically and with enormous success, and

Whereas, under Dean Fayneese Miller's expert direction, UVM's graduate Education program rose 75 places in the *U.S. News and World Reports'* rankings, becoming one of the top 65 nationally, and

Whereas, despite her many duties, Fayneese Miller has developed a reputation as an outstanding scholar in the field of social psychology with a special focus on the topics of alienation, social identity, and cross-racial friendships, and

Whereas, nationally, Fayneese Miller advised the U.S. Department of Justice on truancy matters and served on an American Academy of Arts and Sciences task force on diversity in higher education, and

Whereas, Fayneese Miller's familiarity with public education in Vermont is far broader than UVM classrooms and faculty discussions, as she chaired the State Board of Education, applying her academic knowledge to the development of policies affecting thousands of Vermont students, and

Whereas, her stellar record of accomplishments has not gone unnoticed outside Vermont, as Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota has hired Fayneese Miller as that school's second female and first African-American president, and

Whereas, although sad to leave UVM, Fayneese Miller is ready to accept this exciting new career challenge, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors University of Vermont Dean of Education and Social Services Fayneese S. Miller and wishes her every success as President of Hamline University, and be it further

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