

NO. R-48. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION HONORING THE
BRATTLEBORO UNION HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND ON ITS
PARTICIPATION IN THE 2009 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL PARADE
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

(H.C.R.25)

Offered by: Representatives O'Donnell of Vernon, Burke of Brattleboro,
Edwards of Brattleboro, Milkey of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster,
Manwaring of Wilmington, Marek of Newfane, Moran of Wardsboro,
Mrowicki of Putney, Obuchowski of Rockingham and Partridge of Windham

Offered by: Senators Shumlin and White

Whereas, after the pomp and solemnity of the inauguration of Barack
Obama as our nation's 44th President, a celebratory parade including 90 bands
marched its way down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House, and

Whereas, the bands were selected from a pool of 1,382 aspiring ensembles
representing schools and other organizations nationwide, and

Whereas, Steve Rice, the 22-year veteran director of the Brattleboro Union
High School (BUHS) marching band, decided to chance the almost
insurmountable odds and submitted an application, and

Whereas, not surprisingly, this great group of 81 musically talented young
Vermonters was selected to represent the Green Mountain State in this great
national spectacle, and

Whereas, on learning that the BUHS band had won a coveted spot in the
inaugural parade, Steve Rice initiated a demanding schedule of rehearsals,
many of which were conducted outside in the school's parking lot to acquaint
the students with outdoor marching under frigid temperatures, and

Whereas, having won the honor of representing Vermont in the inaugural parade, the BUHS band still faced an enormous fundraising challenge to finance the trip to Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, the greater Brattleboro community demonstrated its enthusiastic support of these local youngsters at a fundraising concert held at the Latchis Theatre that featured top professional musicians and for which the Brattleboro Arts Initiative served as the primary sponsor with many local businesses offering additional support, and

Whereas, the BUHS Band traveled to Washington, D.C. ready to perform, and those who saw the Vermonters either in person or on television could not fail to be impressed, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Brattleboro Union High School marching band for its participation in the 2009 presidential inaugural parade in Washington, D.C., and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Steve Rice at Brattleboro Union High School.