

No. R-237. House concurrent resolution in memory of Joseph J. Flory.

(H.C.R.157)

Offered by: All members of the House

Offered by: All members of the Senate

Whereas, high school guidance counselors advise and counsel students about important academic and career path decisions, and

Whereas, students rely on and trust high school guidance counselors as mentors who place a student's best interest as the first and sole priority, and

Whereas, Joseph Flory devoted the past dozen years of his distinguished 39-year career as a secondary school educator to his duties as a guidance counselor at Rutland High School, and

Whereas, his compassion, empathy, and wisdom earned him the admiration and friendship of the students he worked with and enormous goodwill among the school's faculty and staff, and

Whereas, a Rutland native, Joseph Flory graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy and Castleton State College, and

Whereas, after graduating from college, he worked at Mount St. Joseph Academy as a classroom teacher, a guidance counselor, a role he was drawn to based on his strong interest in helping students navigate their way through the thicket of choices they make as high school students, and as vice principal, and

Whereas, Joseph Flory also served as a guidance counselor at Proctor High School and most recently at Rutland High School, and

Whereas, he would bring baked goods into school to share with whomever needed sustenance to get through the day and was always willing to meet with students, with whom he maintained enduring and warm friendships, and

Whereas, on Tuesday, April 21, Joseph Flory's was on a special mission to purchase a gift for the guidance department secretary to commemorate Administrative Professional's Day when he died unexpectedly, and

Whereas, the Rutland High School community reacted with enormous shock and sadness on learning that Joseph Flory's life had concluded, and

Whereas, the unsolicited and moving student letters that the *Rutland Herald* has published since Joseph Flory's death are evidence of the lasting and profound impact he had on their lives, and

Whereas, the memory of Joseph Flory will always remain central in the minds and hearts of his family, including his wife, Representative Peg Flory of Pittsford, his sons and their wives, Michael and Adrian, Gregory and Leanne, and Mark and Jennifer, and his six grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its most sincere condolences to Representative Peg Flory, her children, and her grandchildren on the passing of their much-loved and treasured husband, father, and grandfather, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Representative Peg Flory, to each of her sons, and to Rutland High School Principal Peter Folaros.