

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

February 19, 2010

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative requests floor consideration before the end of today's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration should be communicated to the House Clerk's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 245.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the League of Women Voters on its 90th anniversary

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, in 1920, Carrie Chapman Catt, a leader in the hard-fought and ultimately successful campaign for women's suffrage, which culminated in the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, founded the League of Women Voters to educate newly enfranchised women on the vital importance of their participating in civic affairs, including studying major policy issues and voting in elections for public office, and

Whereas, the organization welcomed men to its ranks in 1974, and

Whereas, the mission of the League of Women Voters states that it is "a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy," and

Whereas, the League of Women Voters does not endorse candidates for public office and believes in representative government by working for good government through the enactment of sound campaign finance, voting, and election laws, and

Whereas, forums that bring together elected leaders and the public for civil discourse on major topics, such as land use and education funding, are an important vehicle for the League to engender the public's respect for and trust in government, and

Whereas, the League of Women Voters is constantly reviewing and studying the issues of the day to keep its advocacy relevant and informed, and

Whereas, in its advocacy role, the League of Women Voters supports: the protection of our environment through strict standards for air and water;

fairness in financing public education; universal access to health care; the use of renewable energy sources; and civics education in our nation's schools, and

Whereas, in 2010, the League of Women Voters, along with its 900 state and local leagues nationwide, is celebrating the 90th anniversary of its establishment, marking an important occasion in the history of women's official acceptance into the American political process, and the birthday of a leading national civics education organization, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the League of Women Voters on its 90th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Catherine Rader, President of the League of Women Voters of Vermont, and to the League's national headquarters in Washington, D.C.

H.C.R. 246.

House concurrent resolution honoring book artist Lucy Swope of West Fairlee

Offered by: Representatives Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Conquest of Newbury and Masland of Thetford

Whereas, Lucy Swope is an award-winning poet, exhibited artist, teacher, and farmer who for many years worked in volunteer and professional support for persons with special needs, and

Whereas, after studying at Sarah Lawrence College and the University of New Mexico, as well as residing on a Navajo reservation for six years, Lucy Swope graduated summa cum laude from the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay with a double major in art and creative writing, and later advanced her creative writing skills in Goddard College's Master of Fine Arts program, and

Whereas, a turning point in her life occurred in 1976 when she discovered a Hamilton handpress at the University of Vermont and, with financial support from the Vermont Council on the Arts, produced a book of poetry entitled *In Celebration*, and

Whereas, Lucy Swope's purchase of a platen press from a local high school, where she was an artist in residence, enabled her to explore the special craft of book-artistry, and

Whereas, Lucy Swope established the Elizabeth Farm Press in Ryegate, in honor of the farm that her husband, retired University of Vermont Professor Stan Yarian, and she worked together, and when they relocated to West Fairlee, she renamed her press the Lucky Dog Press, and

Whereas, she publishes hand-size books ideal for children that are typically printed: in editions of 100, on thick paper, with type large enough for children to read, with perfection bindings, and topped off with covers derived from fine wallpaper, and

Whereas, Lucy Swope takes personal responsibility for her books' artwork and text, and she creates storyboards to assess a story's flow and symmetry as it moves from one page to the next, and

Whereas, the primary protagonists in many of her books are frequently animals which have been central to her life as a farmer, and

Whereas, among her delightful titles exploring the animal world is *The Story of I-Am-A-Dragon*, the first book printed on her platen press, which relates a tale her four-year-old son told her four decades ago, and

Whereas, other animal-related titles Lucy Swope has published include *Lucky Dog!*, *Tutu the House Lamb*, *Turkeys Aren't Just for Thanksgiving*, and most recently, *The Mighty Zo Dog*, as well as books with human characters such as *The Girl Who Loved to Draw* and *The Handsome Mr. Lincoln*, and

Whereas, in 2011, Lucy Swope turns 75, which marks a personal milestone in her life, and this will be a wonderful occasion to recognize her accomplishments, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Lucy Swope for her unique and meaningful contributions to Vermont's artistic, cultural, and literary life, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Lucy Swope in West Fairlee.

H.C.R. 247.

House concurrent resolution honoring Lyndon Corey for his half-century of remarkable leadership and service at the Fairfield Fire Department

Offered by: Representatives Howrigan of Fairfield, Branagan of Georgia, Consejo of Sheldon, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Gilbert of Fairfax, Keenan of St. Albans City, McAllister of Highgate, Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburg, Savage of Swanton, Turner of Milton and Young of St. Albans City

Offered by: Senators Brock and Kittell

Whereas, Lyndon Corey was born in the town of Fairfax in 1932, and

Whereas, he served in the United States Army, 1951–1958, and continued his military service as a member of the U.S. Army Reserve until 1962, and

Whereas, similar to many Vermonters, Lyndon Corey has several vocations, including working on a dairy farm, in construction, and in the maple sugar business, and

Whereas, in 1960, he was a founder of the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department, beginning a public safety commitment that has endured for half-a-century, and

Whereas, during his firefighting career, Lyndon Corey assumed major leadership responsibilities in the department, serving as the fire warden for 30 years and as the department's chief for 45 years, and

Whereas, he assumed active roles in firefighting matters beyond the town of Fairfield, serving on county and state committees and chairing the local mutual aid system, and

Whereas, Lyndon Corey was active in the municipal affairs of Fairfield, having served on the board of adjustment and as a justice of the peace, and

Whereas, agricultural fairs are an important institution for Lyndon Corey, and for several years he was a member of the Franklin County Field Days' board of directors, including a two-year tenure as its chair, and

Whereas, for 23 years, Lyndon Corey was the knowledgeable superintendent for horse pulling events at the Champlain Valley Fair, and

Whereas, in 1980, he was a founder of the Green Mountain Draft Horse Association, and

Whereas, Lyndon Corey and his wife, Joyce, were married in 1956, and they are the parents of three sons: Timothy, who is now Fairfield's fire chief, and Jeffrey and Gary, who both serve as firefighters, and

Whereas, there are four Corey grandchildren: Amanda, Emily, Faith, and Griffen, and

Whereas, after 50 years as a most honorable, innovative, and energetic member of the Fairfield Fire Department, Lyndon Corey is retiring from the force with the grateful appreciation of his town's fellow citizens for his half-century of public service, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Lyndon Corey for his half-century of remarkable leadership and service at the Fairfield Fire Department, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Lyndon Corey in Fairfield and to the Fairfield Fire Department.

H.C.R. 248.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington on winning the Vermont Grocers' Association Retailer of the Year award

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Audette of South Burlington, Geier of South Burlington and Head of South Burlington

Whereas, the Vermont Grocers' Association (VGA) is a broadly based statewide organization representing approximately 670 stores in all aspects of retail food sales, and

Whereas, annually, the VGA honors a member store that exemplifies the highest standards in the business of food sales as the retailer of the year, and

Whereas, in 1986, the Lesser family started, and continues to operate, Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington, and, in 2010, it is Vermont's largest natural foods market, and

Whereas, this market places great priority on developing and maintaining a long-term workforce and empowering its staff to become invested in the store, and

Whereas, Healthy Living is a community-service-oriented retailer, and regularly donates food to nonprofit organizations, including, in 2009, providing meals to at-risk youth who use Spectrum Youth Services' Pearl Street drop-in center in Burlington, and

Whereas, this store recently became the first business to partner with Common Roots, a new South Burlington nonprofit organization that is working toward the purchase of a 143-acre farm that will serve as an innovative educational and food resource, and

Whereas, Healthy Living recently established the South Burlington Farmers' Market, and it quickly expanded to feature over 40 local farms and food producers, and

Whereas, Healthy Living is a truly innovative and successful business that has been most deservedly selected as the VGA Retailer of the Year, and the award will be presented to the winner in Montpelier on February 18, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly is delighted to congratulate Healthy Living Natural Foods Market of South Burlington on being named the Vermont Grocers' Association Retailer of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Katy Lesser, owner of the Healthy Living Natural Foods Market in South Burlington.

H.C.R. 249.

House concurrent resolution honoring Theodore Manazir for his exemplary 29 years of public service as a member of the South Burlington school board upon his retirement from the board

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Audette of South Burlington, Geier of South Burlington and Head of South Burlington

Whereas, Theodore Manazir is a steadfast, honest, direct, and dedicated school board member who has devoted more than 29 years to the students and community of South Burlington, and

Whereas, he is passionate about public education, and

Whereas, Theodore Manazir is kind and wise, and

Whereas, he is an inspiration to all who know him, and

Whereas, Theodore Manazir has volunteered in many ways in service to children, and

Whereas, all of his efforts on behalf of South Burlington's public school students have been offered with humility and commitment to improve the community's public education center, and

Whereas, after 29 years, Theodore Manazir is retiring from the South Burlington school board, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Theodore Manazir for his exemplary 29 years of public service as a member of the South Burlington school board upon his retirement from the board, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Theodore Manazir in South Burlington.

H.C.R. 250.

House concurrent resolution honoring the exemplary performance of the volunteer fire departments of Sheldon, Swanton, Enosburg, Cambridge, Fairfield, Highgate, and St. Albans Town in combating the August 2009 RockTenn Mill blaze in Sheldon Springs

Offered by: Representatives Savage of Swanton, Consejo of Sheldon, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Howard of Cambridge, Howrigan of Fairfield, McAllister of Highgate, Pearce of Richford and Perley of Enosburg

Offered by: Senators Brock and Kittell

Whereas, early on Sunday morning, August 16, 2009, a five-alarm fire broke out at the large RockTenn Missisquoi Mill in Sheldon Springs, and

Whereas, the hometown Sheldon volunteer fire department was first on the scene and arrived as flames were shooting through the mill's roof, and

Whereas, the enormity and intensity of the fire was far beyond the scope of Sheldon's excellent but small fire department's ability to extinguish without additional support from neighboring towns, and

Whereas, immediately upon witnessing this stunning conflagration, Sheldon Fire Chief Richard Piaseczny activated the mutual aid system that fire departments rely on to combat large blazes, and

Whereas, in response to the urgent call for assistance from Sheldon, volunteer fire departments from the neighboring towns of Enosburg and Swanton responded quickly, and

Whereas, the need for still further support became apparent, and four more volunteer fire departments from further afield in Cambridge, Fairfield, Highgate, and St. Albans Town raced to the scene in the predawn hours, and

Whereas, these superb firefighting volunteers remained at the RockTenn Mill through the night and well past sunrise and did not depart the fire site until 9:00 a.m. on Monday morning, and

Whereas, their expert efforts were successful as the RockTenn Mill soon reopened, and

Whereas, this great collaboration of seven small rural volunteer fire departments in extinguishing a blaze that would have challenged even a large fulltime urban fire department reflects the skill and personal commitment to community service that characterize Vermont's volunteer firefighters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly is proud to honor the exemplary performance of the volunteer fire departments of Sheldon, Swanton, Enosburg, Cambridge, Fairfield, Highgate, and St. Albans Town in combating the August 2009 RockTenn Mill blaze in Sheldon Springs, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the volunteer fire departments honored in this resolution.

H.C.R. 251.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Shoreham firefighter Peter James Coe

Offered by: Representative Stevens of Shoreham

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, Peter Coe had an infectious love of life, his family, and his adopted hometown of Shoreham and exuded a fun-filled sense of humor, and

Whereas, he was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, and, after a post-high school sojourn to California, he returned east to attend college, and

Whereas, Peter Coe married his wife, Valerie, in 1990, and they were the proud parents of a daughter, Genevieve, and a son, Nicholas, and

Whereas, After 36 years of living in the Washington, D.C. area and despite the protestations of their many local friends, Peter and Valerie moved to Vermont, seeking a more family-oriented and less hectic lifestyle, and they never regretted the decision, and

Whereas, he became a respected public housing manager with an amazing work ethic who was especially pleased that he was able to assist tenants to help themselves improve their quality of life, and

Whereas, Peter Coe was an avid sportsman who loved to play golf, to hunt, and to fish, and

Whereas, he found his service as a volunteer Shoreham firefighter personally rewarding and emotionally satisfying, and became a valued member of Shoreham's public safety protection team, and

Whereas, in the early evening of December 27, 2009, Peter Coe was driving on Richville Dam Road in Shoreham when he spotted a motorist whose vehicle had slid into a ditch on the icy and foggy night, and

Whereas, in the true role of a volunteer firefighter, who is always on call, Peter Coe pulled to the side of the road in order to assist the stranded motorist, and

Whereas, while he was assisting the motorist, a truck struck and killed him, bringing to a tragic, and far-too-premature end, the life of this vivacious 43-year old husband, father, and friend to many in the town of Shoreham, and

Whereas, the town of Shoreham paid a sad farewell to Peter Coe as a large contingent of firefighters and paramedics marched from the Shoreham firehouse to the local Congregational church where the well-attended memorial service concluded with the traditional ringing of a bell in the firefighter's honor, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family and friends of Shoreham volunteer firefighter Peter James Coe, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Valerie, Genevieve, and Nicholas Coe in Shoreham and to the Shoreham fire department.

H.C.R. 252.

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 25th anniversary of the inauguration of Vermont's first woman governor, Madeleine May Kunin

Offered by: Representatives Howard of Rutland City, Ancel of Calais, Andrews of Rutland City, Aswad of Burlington, Atkins of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven, Cheney of Norwich, Clarkson of Woodstock, Condon of Colchester, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Deen of Westminster, Donovan of Burlington, Emmons of Springfield, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Greshin of Warren, Head of South Burlington, Hooper of Montpelier, Howrigan of Fairfield, Jewett of Ripton, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Leriche of Hardwick, Lippert of Hinesburg, Lorber of Burlington, Macaig of Williston, Maier of Middlebury, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, Miller of Shaftsbury, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, Obuchowski of Rockingham, Partridge of Windham, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Sharpe of Bristol, Smith of Mendon, Smith of Morristown, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Waterbury, Stevens of Shoreham, Sweaney of Windsor, Taylor of Barre City, Toll of Danville, Townsend of Randolph, Wilson of Manchester, Wizowaty of Burlington, Young of St. Albans City and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, in 1940, when Madeleine May and her family fled her native Switzerland for the United States to escape the looming Nazi threat to their lives, no one could have envisioned that she would become Vermont's governor and ultimately return to Switzerland as the American ambassador, and

Whereas, her family settled in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and she graduated from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and

Whereas, Madeleine May earned a graduate degree in journalism at Columbia University and moved to Vermont, where she reported for the Burlington Free Press, and

Whereas, she subsequently earned a master's degree from the University of Vermont's program for state and local government, and

Whereas, after marrying Dr. Arthur Kunin and starting to raise a family, she became interested in neighborhood issues and in 1972 ran for the House of Representatives, and

Whereas, her legislative skills earned the respect of her colleagues, and in 1977, house Speaker Timothy J. O'Connor, Jr., appointed Madeleine May Kunin chair of the house committee on appropriations, and

Whereas, in 1978, Madeleine May Kunin ran successfully for lieutenant governor, becoming only the second woman to reach this Vermont office and the first to be reelected, and

Whereas, her service as lieutenant governor served as critical preparation for the highest state office, and in 1984, Madeleine May Kunin became the first woman elected governor of the state of Vermont, and

Whereas, during her three terms in this prestigious office, she brought other Vermont women to prominent roles in state government, and

Whereas, Governor Kunin placed special focus on issues pertaining to education, families, and health care, including initiating Dr. Dynasaur, and to the natural environment, promoting the creation of the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust, and

Whereas, Madeleine May Kunin played a leading role in the 1992 presidential election campaign of Bill Clinton, and

Whereas, President Clinton appointed Madeleine May Kunin as deputy secretary of education, and her success on the domestic policy scene served as a prelude to her appointment in 1996 as the U.S. ambassador to Switzerland, and

Whereas, as ambassador, aside from working to continue the warm relations between the two nations, Madeleine May Kunin was instrumental in convincing the government of Switzerland to account for the financial assets that had been confiscated during World War II from Jewish families, including those of her own family, and

Whereas, Madeleine May Kunin has authored several books, including most recently *Pearls, Politics and Power: How Women Can Win and Lead*, and has taught at institutions of higher education, and

Whereas, 2010 marks the silver anniversary of Madeleine May Kunin's inauguration as Vermont's first woman governor, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the 25th anniversary of the inauguration of Governor Madeleine May Kunin, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Madeleine May Kunin.

H.C.R. 253.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Black River High School Presidents boys' soccer team on winning the school's third consecutive Division IV championship

Offered by: Representative Devereux of Mount Holly

Offered by: Senator Nitka, Campbell and McCormack

Whereas, the boys' soccer team at Black River High School had clinched two consecutive Division IV championships in 2007 and 2008, and

Whereas, winning a third straight title would replicate the school's girls' soccer team's comparable success across the 2006–2008 seasons, and

Whereas, the Presidents boys' soccer team, continuing a friendly rivalry, demonstrated that it is as adept as the girls' team at executing a triple play on the championship circuit, and

Whereas, in the 2009 playoff competition, the Presidents were seeded fourth among all the competitors, and

Whereas, not to anyone's surprise, Black River High School was one of two contenders in the 2009 Division IV championship game in which it faced a stiff challenge from Sharon Academy, and

Whereas, despite the Presidents' valiant scoring attempts, the first half of the game concluded in a scoreless tie, and

Whereas, in the second half of the game, at the 43rd minute of play, Black River broke the scoreless tie as it sent the ball into the scoring zone for the game's first goal, and

Whereas, the Presidents' narrow 1–0 lead was ended with just 37 seconds remaining in regulation play as Sharon scored a goal that tied the game at one–all, and

Whereas, two overtime periods still left the 1–1 tie firmly on the scoreboard, and resorting to a penalty kick round became a necessity for deciding the game's winner, and

Whereas, Black River won this exciting and unanticipated penalty kick competition 4–2, and

Whereas, although the closely matched contest against Sharon Academy lasted longer than anticipated, the Black River boys' soccer team went home to Ludlow with its third consecutive Division IV championship, and

Whereas, the 2009 roster of great Black River boys' soccer players included Joshua Bickford, Benjamin Farrow, Jake Goraj, James Greenwood, Chris Kowalski, Kippie Turco, Jake Covell, Victor Cucullo, Justin Cucullo, Cody Fortuna, Carson Kathan, Kyle Milligan, Dillon Normyle, Riken Patel, Mathias Philipsen, Tyler Schaub, Jesse Gillette, Josh Paul, Tim Rumrill, and Noah Schmidt, and

Whereas, coach Tony Valente along with assistant coach Ron Wood and goal-keeper coach Greg Kathan were great instructors, and the team benefited from viewing the great work of videographer Bruce Perry, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Black River High School Presidents boys' soccer team on winning the school's third consecutive Division IV championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tony Valente at Black River High School.

H.C.R. 254.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Colchester Selectman Brian William McNeil

Offered by: Representatives Brennan of Colchester, Condon of Colchester, Spengler of Colchester, Zenie of Colchester and Donovan of Burlington

Offered by: Senator Mazza

Whereas, Brian McNeil was born into a Burlington family that eventually totaled 11 children and developed a love of athletic competition that continued into adulthood, and

Whereas, Brian McNeil's athletic pursuits started with basketball and included an undefeated eighth-grade team at Cathedral Grammar School, playing on YMCA and CYO squads, and continued with playing on two consecutive Division I championship teams at Rice Memorial High School, and

Whereas, after graduating from Rice Memorial High School, he earned a degree at Vermont Technical College, and

Whereas, the City of Burlington Electric Light Department became Brian McNeil's long-term employer where his duties had included maintenance of the Moran Generating Station and Burlington's traffic signal system, and

Whereas, aside from his job at the City of Burlington Electric Light Department, Brian McNeil was the proprietor of McNeil Marine and City Dock Marina where he had maintained and repaired hundreds of vessels, and

Whereas, Brian McNeil had served honorably in the Vermont Air National Guard in a medical support capacity, and

Whereas, as an adult, he was an avid water-skier, founded the Vermont Water Ski Association, and was a five-time state waterskiing champion, and

Whereas, his love of sports later extended to rooting for many college and professional teams, and he reveled in laughing about, but never explaining how, he was able to sit in Vice President Mondale's seat at the fabled 1980 U.S.A.-U.S.S.R. Olympic ice hockey showdown at Lake Placid, and

Whereas, a resident of Colchester, Brian McNeil had a strong interest in local, state, and national politics, and he was elected to the Colchester Selectboard on which he served with distinction, and

Whereas, Brian McNeil was extremely proud of his contribution to the community, and had hoped to promote the potential town purchase of Camp Holy Cross, and

Whereas, he fought a brave battle against cancer, and he truly relished the camaraderie he experienced during a recent living wake held in his honor at the Clover House Restaurant in Colchester, and

Whereas, Brian McNeil died all too young at the age of 57 on February 6, 2010, and his family members, including his mother, Margaret A. McNeil, son and daughter-in-law, William and Jessica, sisters and brothers, including his brother Jim, and many other relatives and innumerable friends, will all miss his friendship, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family and many friends of Colchester selectboard member Brian William McNeil, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Margaret A. McNeil, Will and Jessica McNeil, Jim McNeil, and the Colchester selectboard.

H.C.R. 255.

House concurrent resolution honoring the towns and citizens of Dover, Whitingham, and Wilmington for their creativity in establishing a mutually beneficial economic development model that other communities can adopt

Offered by: Representatives Moran of Wardsboro and Manwaring of Wilmington

Offered by: Senators Hartwell, Sears, Shumlin and White

Whereas, in the winter of 2006–2007, the Deerfield Valley, a tourism-dependent area, suffered devastating economic losses from lack of snow and unseasonably warm weather, and

Whereas, in February 2007, the towns of Dover, Whitingham, and Wilmington, the Mount Snow Valley Chamber of Commerce, and representatives from the lodging, recreation, and dining industries explained to legislators and state agencies the severe economic losses sustained in the Deerfield Valley, and

Whereas, in the spring of 2007, the adversely affected towns and businesses, recognizing that true change must be locally initiated and cooperatively developed, created a committee to address mutual concerns named the Dover-Whitingham-Wilmington Tri-Town Economic Development Committee, and

Whereas, by the end of 2007, short- and long-term economic development plans, consisting of both tourism and nontourism-related components, were presented to each of the three towns' selectboards for support, and

Whereas, at 2008 town meeting in Dover, Whitingham, and Wilmington voters approved their respective town's implementation of this economic development plan, and

Whereas, in the summer and fall of 2008, lupines were planted along VT Routes 9, 100, and 112 to symbolize the towns' unified efforts, a multi-town calendar and uniform wifi signage were organized, and four well-attended public forums facilitated community discussions relating to economic development, and

Whereas, at 2009 town meeting, the three towns' voters approved a short-term planning budget to continue beautification efforts and other immediate projects, and simultaneously, Dover's and Wilmington's voters approved hiring a consultant to create a plan that would create long-term and sustainable economic development to affect positively the economy and overall quality of life in the Deerfield Valley, and

Whereas, residents of the valley, in collaboration with consultants Mullin & Associates, created an economic development plan which the Dover and Wilmington selectboards approved in November, 2009, and

Whereas, the achievements of the Tri-Town Economic Development Committee have a positive impact on the Deerfield Valley, and they provide a community-based economic development model that reflects the entrepreneurial spirit and work ethic of all Vermonters, and can be applied in other towns, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the towns and citizens of Dover, Whitingham, and Wilmington for their creativity in establishing a mutually beneficial economic development model that other communities can adopt, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the selectboards of Dover, Whitingham, and Wilmington.