CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

Text of House Concurrent Resolutions

of

May 7, 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. 356.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Alice Jersey on her 101st birthday

Offered by: Representative Sweaney of Windsor

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

<u>Whereas</u>, Alice Jersey was born in Stratford, Connecticut in 1909 into a large family of seven children, and

Whereas, she was raised in a farm family, and

Whereas, she was happily married for many years to Jon Jersey, and

<u>Whereas</u>, although she never had children of her own, Alice Jersey loved being with youngsters and for 47 years worked as a schoolteacher, and

Whereas, Alice Jersey did not limit her role as a educator to a school classroom, as she also taught piano, and

<u>Whereas</u>, although now past the centennial anniversary of her birth, Alice Jersey is a woman who maintains a zest for life and loves to play Scrabble and card games, and

Whereas, Alice Jersey adores animals and is the proud owner of a cat named Miss Kitty, and

<u>Whereas</u>, on May 14, Alice Jersey will mark a special personal milestone when she observes her 101st birthday, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Alice Jersey on her 101st birthday, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Alice Jersey at the Cedar Hill Continuing Care Community in Windsor.

H.C.R. 357.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Donna Smith on her receipt of the 2010 Patricia Cummings Pierce Excellence in Teaching Award

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Bray of New Haven

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

<u>Whereas</u>, annually, the Addison Northeast Supervisory Union, the Five Town Business Council (a division of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce serving the needs of businesses in Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven, and Starksboro), and the Mount Abraham Union High School Parent Teacher Organization recognize outstanding school personnel in the five towns "who have gone 'above and beyond' in contributing to the success of our youth in an educational environment and in promoting excellence in education," and

<u>Whereas</u>, among the awards presented is the Patricia Cummings Pierce Excellence in Teaching Award which the Tari Shattuck Education Foundation sponsors, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the 2010 winner of the Patricia Cummings Pierce Excellence in Teaching Award is Donna Smith who, for over 25 years, has been an enthusiastic faculty member of Beeman Elementary School in New Haven, and

<u>Whereas</u>, her nominators stated that "if Donna Smith were a building, she would be the foundation," meaning she is at the core of the education process at Beeman Elementary School, and

<u>Whereas</u>, her colleagues describe Donna Smith as their unsung hero, always placing the needs of her students above her own, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the teaching style Donna Smith practices is imbued with patience, persistence, and good humor, and

Whereas, she instills a sense of self-confidence in her students, enabling them to declare "I can do this," and

<u>Whereas</u>, Donna Smith's work experiences have covered the breadth of the school's grades from preschool to grade 6, and she has a legendary reputation for volunteering to assist with extracurricular activities and community projects, and

<u>Whereas</u>, her pedagogic philosophy is rooted in collaborating with colleagues and bringing their best attributes to the forefront, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Donna Smith, who is closing her classroom door for the final time this June, exemplifies the best aspects of the teaching profession and is a most worthy recipient of this distinguished award, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Donna Smith on her receipt of the 2010 Patricia Cummings Pierce Excellence in Teaching Award and wishes her a wonderful retirement, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Donna Smith and to Beeman Elementary School.

H.C.R. 358.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Stratton Mountain Ski Resort skiing legend Emo Henrich

Offered by: Representatives Olsen of Jamaica, Komline of Dorset and Wilson of Manchester

Offered by: Senators Shumlin and White

<u>Whereas</u>, Emo Henrich, a native of Innsbruck, Austria, was a born skier and an enthusiastic connoisseur of Austrian culture, especially popular Tyrolean songs, dances, and yodeling, and

<u>Whereas</u>, both of these passions are closely intertwined with the history of the Stratton Mountain Ski Resort, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1961, Stratton Mountain Ski Resort founder, Frank Snyder, invited Emo Henrich to relocate from California, where he was working as a ski instructor, to become the resort's first ski school director, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the Stratton Mountain Ski School instructed the resort's patrons, both beginning skiers and those who already had more familiarity with alpine skiing, how to maximize their skills and the enjoyment of the sport, and

<u>Whereas</u>, thousands of skiers benefited from Emo Henrich's instruction and that of his faculty, many of whom were young skiers who he had taught, and

<u>Whereas</u>, while he was busy on the slopes, his wife, Annedore, managed their cozy and popular nearby ski lodge, The Birkenhaus, and

<u>Whereas</u>, his evenings were spent entertaining guests at The Birkenhaus or leading Tyrolean entertainment nights at Stratton Mountain's base lodge, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Emo Henrich's musical talent led him to establish a singing group, The Stratton Mountain Boys, which he directed while also supervising the ski school, and

<u>Whereas</u>, his artistic inclinations were not limited to Tyrolean music, as his beautiful watercolors portrayed the many places around the world to which he ventured to ski, sail, mountain climb, and enjoy beautiful scenery, most especially, his native Austria, and

<u>Whereas</u>, another one of the many skills he mastered was woodworking, and Jake Burton Carpenter developed his early snowboard craftsmanship under Emo Henrich's careful tutelage, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Emo and Annedore Henrich were supporters of many worthy local institutions, and, in 1989, his special place in the heart of the Stratton community was recognized when the Stratton Foundation and Stratton Mountain Ski Resort jointly established the Emo Henrich Award, which is presented to a local resident who has demonstrated exemplary community service and a lasting impact on Stratton Mountain, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Emo Henrich died in May 2009 in Igls, Austria, and his survivors include his wife, Annedore, daughters, Mercedes (Benzi) and Christina (Tini), and grandchildren, Olivia and Rory, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of Stratton Mountain skiing legend Emo Henrich, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Annedore Henrich, each of Emo Henrich's daughters, the Stratton Mountain Ski Resort, and the Stratton Foundation.

H.C.R. 359.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Milton High School and Thetford Academy 2010 Vermont Drama Festival cochampions

Offered by: Representatives Turner of Milton, Masland of Thetford, Hubert of Milton, Cheney of Norwich, Howrigan of Fairfield, Johnson of South Hero and Krebs of South Hero

<u>Whereas</u>, the Vermont Drama Festival (VDF) championship showcases the best high school performances of one-act plays as selected at the festival's preliminary regional competitions, and

Whereas, the 2010 VDF championship was held on March 26–27 at Randolph Union High School, and

<u>Whereas</u>, when the two days of great performances in Randolph were concluded, Milton High School and Thetford Academy were designated as cochampions and became the VDF's representatives to perform at the New England Drama Festival, which since 1928 has featured the winners from the state drama festivals in a noncompetitive weekend of great theatrical presentations, and

Whereas, the Milton High School students performed "Scenes from The Rimers of Eldritch," a one-act compilation of highlights from the Lanford

Wilson play which relates the story of a murder in a small midwestern town, the trial that follows, and the events' impact on an otherwise sleepy community, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the superb student actors and production crew from Milton High School included Jamie Deuell, Grace Emery, Hailey Manfredi, Keely Agan, Natalie Kurjan, Michaela Halnon, McKenzie Goodwin, Gavin Cook, Ben Gilbert, Kelsey Campbell, Erica Russom, Emma Socha, Jesse Phelps, Brian Hamel, Jessica O'Brien, Patrick Gilbert, Nick Sorrentino, August Cyr, Amanda Simms, Alison Joseph, Kacie Anders, Jenni Roussin, Liz Hamlin, Jordan Lamotte, Allyssa McConkey, Kaitlyn Hanson, Kayla G. Webster, Caitlynn Field, Cece Simms, Maria Castine, Danielle Archambault, Dominique Butler, and Maxwell Curtiss, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Paul Curtiss was the great director who had the valuable support of adult assistants John Lindsay, Kim Hamel, Gisele McRae, Lynn Fosher, Mark Vanyush, Christina Reider, Lindsey Reynolds, and Ryan Montague, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the cast from cochampion Thetford Academy performed Stephen Gregg's one-act play "This is a Test," which portrays a 60-minute test of enormous life importance during which multiple hurdles arise and which culminates in an essay question that is to be written in Chinese, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the outstanding Thetford Academy thespians and technical crew were Malachie Reilly, Kara Ciambra, Michaela Doyle, Jacob Osborne, Satchel Arnold, Andrew Cawley, Hannah Tarleton, Haley Grigel, Eliza Hoffman, Arianna MacKinnon, Dominic Chatot, Rozy Isquith, Henry Levine, Rowan Froehlich, Maddison Wilhite, India Choquette, Helen Cleaves, Lizzy Marks, Peter Ferguson, Reece MacRae, Ethan Chapman, Alex Crimmin, and Gabe Freund, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the play's great director, Ray Chapin, was proud of the Thetford students who won the award for Excellence in Comic Timing, and individual participants were honored with awards for excellence in acting and in lighting design, a technical function for which adults are often responsible, and

<u>Whereas</u>, both schools performed their plays to great acclaim at the 2010 New England Drama Festival that was held in Falmouth, Maine, on April 15– 17, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Milton High School and Thetford Academy 2010 Vermont Drama Festival cochampions, and be it further <u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the student members and directors from each of the winning schools.

H.C.R. 360.

House concurrent resolution honoring Vermont Association for Mental Health Executive Director Ken Libertoff for his exemplary work as a mental health care advocate

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Andrews of Rutland City, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Koch of Barre Town, Maier of Middlebury, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney, Nease of Johnson, O'Brien of Richmond, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Spengler of Colchester, Till of Jericho, Wheeler of Derby and Wizowaty of Burlington

Offered by: Senators Choate, Kitchel, Kittell, Lyons, Mullin, Racine, Shumlin, Snelling and White

<u>Whereas</u>, as the Vermont Association for Mental Health (VAMH) executive director, Ken Libertoff has served as a key advocate for the development of high-quality mental health care services that are accessible and affordable for all Vermonters, and

<u>Whereas</u>, after graduation from the University of Connecticut, he headed to Yale University to work for a professor as a research assistant, and simultaneously he started career-molding associations with anti-poverty groups in New Haven, Connecticut, and

<u>Whereas</u>, through work with these organizations, Ken Libertoff was exposed to young runaways, societal dropouts, and drug addicts, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Ken Libertoff's work in the inner city of New Haven inspired him to enroll at Harvard University, where he earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and public practice, writing a dissertation on runaway children that he completed after moving to Vermont to serve as director of the Washington County Youth Services Bureau, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1981, Ken Libertoff accepted the position of VAMH executive director and the challenge of working for an organization with the most minimal financial or staff resources, and

<u>Whereas</u>, he accepted this daunting task, and, during the past 29 years, Ken Libertoff's inspiring leadership of the VAMH has led to major breakthroughs in the delivery of high-quality mental health services to Vermonters, and

<u>Whereas</u>, among the legislative highlights of Ken Libertoff's efforts have been the adoption of Act 185 in 1994, "An act to assure fair and effective mental health utilization review," and the VAMH's successful advocacy for limitation of pharmaceutical company donations of gifts to prescribers of medication contained in Act 59 of 2009, and

<u>Whereas</u>, perhaps Ken Libertoff's proudest moment was in 1997 when Governor Dean signed into law the legislation now known as Act 25, "An act relating to health insurance for mental health and substance abuse disorders," which mandated parity in health insurance plans in Vermont between mental health care and physical health care services, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in recent years, Ken Libertoff has been in the forefront of the effort to close and to find a truly professional and compassionate 21st-century alternative to the Vermont State Hospital, a struggle that will unfortunately continue beyond the duration of his tenure at the VAMH, and

<u>Whereas</u>, after nearly three decades as an exemplary and unbelievably dedicated advocate for the improvement of Vermont's mental health care system, Ken Libertoff will retire from his role as VAMH executive director later this year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Vermont Association for Mental Health Executive Director Ken Libertoff for his exemplary work as a mental health care advocate, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ken Libertoff and to the Vermont Association for Mental Health in Montpelier.

H.C.R. 361.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Reverend Kathryn Hult of Bellows Falls for her compassionate community leadership

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham and Partridge of Windham

<u>Whereas</u>, the Reverend Kathryn Hult of the United Church of Bellows Falls has devoted her life, in both her religious and nonsectarian endeavors, to serving individuals in need, and

Whereas, she earned an undergraduate degree in social work at the University of Wisconsin, and a decade later, Kaye Hult resumed her education at the Boston University School of Theology from which she graduated with a master's degree in divinity, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1984, Rev. Kaye Hult was ordained as a minister in the United Church of Christ and was associated with parishes in Ohio and on Cape Cod prior to serving at a pastoral counseling agency in New Bedford, Massachusetts, as a marriage and family therapist, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in May 1996, Rev. Kaye Hult was called to the pulpit of the United Church of Bellows Falls, where she has become a compassionate and programmatically creative advocate for both her own congregants' quality of life and that of the broader community, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Rev. Kaye Hult is one of the founders of the Greater Falls United Network, which is an amalgamation of churches and social service agencies that assist individuals in need of financial assistance to pay rent and electric bills, and

<u>Whereas</u>, her congregation's Board of Missions, working with the Partners in Service organization, has developed a special association with Mountainside in Ludlow, which provides temporary shelter for runaway teenagers, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Rev. Kaye Hult played a leading role, in coordination with representatives of the Our Place Drop-In Center and Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), in the establishment of the Greater Falls Warming Shelter, and in recognition of her leadership, SEVCA is honoring her with its Community Catalyst Award, and

<u>Whereas</u>, perhaps the United Church of Bellows Falls' most ambitious and spiritually rewarding community project under Rev. Kaye Hult's leadership has been to spur the development and imminent construction of Marks Meadows, a new continuing care community in Westminster that is being brought to fruition in coordination with Westminster Cares and other like-minded organizations and individuals, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Rev. Kaye Hult passionately believes in offering loving inclusive hospitality and to do all that can be done to build people up, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 2009, Rev. Kaye Hult marked 25 years as an ordained minister, and her many good deeds are truly praiseworthy, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Reverend Kathryn Hult of Bellows Falls for her compassionate community leadership, and

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Reverend Kathryn Hult at the United Church of Bellows Falls.

H.C.R. 362.

House concurrent resolution honoring Richard Slusky's career and civic service in Windsor County

Offered by: Representatives Sweaney of Windsor, Adams of Hartland, Shand of Weathersfield, Cheney of Norwich, Clarkson of Woodstock, Emmons of Springfield and Martin of Springfield

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

<u>Whereas</u>, Richard Slusky has contributed to the well-being of Windsor County residents in numerous ways, and

<u>Whereas</u>, he graduated from Pennsylvania State University and earned an MBA from Boston University, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1982, after holding positions in the health care field on Cape Cod, he began a remarkably innovative and successful tenure as chief executive officer of Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (Mt. Ascutney), and

<u>Whereas</u>, under his direction, the hospital has achieved many accomplishments that are especially notable for a relatively small community hospital, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1995, Mt. Ascutney joined the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Alliance, greatly expanding its capability to provide its patients with the best possible health care, and

<u>Whereas</u>, under Richard Slusky's direction, in 1999, Mt. Ascutney opened the first therapeutic pool in Vermont, a facility that attracts physical therapy patients from throughout the region, and

Whereas, in 2001, Mt. Ascutney was designated as a critical care hospital, an important step in its effort to always improve the quality of its services, and

<u>Whereas</u>, several major hospital campus expansions occurred during his watch, including most recently a \$6 million project that was funded in part through the proceeds of a successful \$3.8 million capital campaign, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Richard Slusky has held many professional leadership roles locally and nationally, and

<u>Whereas</u>, as the town of Windsor's school board chair, Richard Slusky was instrumental in the successful and complete reconstruction of the aging elementary school and in the building of a new adjoining middle and high school complex, and

<u>Whereas</u>, his education governance leadership was also outstanding when Richard Slusky chaired the Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union Board, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Richard Slusky has won many commendations for professional and civic service, including designation as a Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow, the organization's most prestigious honor, and

<u>Whereas</u>, after truly meeting the hospital hiring committee's highest expectations, in August 2010 Richard Slusky will conclude his remarkable career as Mt. Ascutney's chief executive officer, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Richard Slusky's career and civic service and wishes him a wonderful retirement with his family, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Richard Slusky.

H.C.R. 363.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Peacham Library on its bicentennial anniversary

Offered by: Representative Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Kitchel and Choate

<u>Whereas</u>, the history of the Peacham Library is closely linked to that of the Caledonia County Grammar School (Peacham Academy), and

<u>Whereas</u>, on August 9, 1810, a group of the academy's students formed The Peacham Juvenile Library Society for the purpose of providing a research resource for the school's debating society, and

Whereas, for a \$2.00 fee, an aspiring debater could be enrolled as a proprietor of the library, and

<u>Whereas</u>, although The Peacham Juvenile Library Society continued to develop a book collection throughout the 19th century, the books lacked any permanent home, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1855, the proprietors, seeking an official legal status for the library, secured a legislatively granted charter in the form of Act 108, "An act to Incorporate the Peacham Juvenile Library Society," and

<u>Whereas</u>, Thaddeus Stevens, a Danville native and the famous Civil War-era congressional advocate for emancipation of the slaves, offered the library several challenge grants intended to encourage local philanthropy, and

at his death in 1868, bequeathed \$1,000.00 to the town of Peacham with the interest directed to the library, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1909, the more financially prosperous Peacham Juvenile Library Society purchased a building at Peacham Corner to serve as the permanent home for its printed materials and as an inviting place for patrons to visit and in which to read, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1914, George Harvey, a Peacham native and future United States Ambassador to Great Britain, donated 1,000 volumes, and by the 1940s, the collection had expanded to over 6,000 published items, and

<u>Whereas</u>, tragedy struck the library on January 27, 1959, when a devastating fire destroyed the building and nearly every catalogued item, and

<u>Whereas</u>, a community effort resulted in the dedication of a new book-filled edifice on August 10, 1960, the sesquicentennial anniversary of the library, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 1972, the name of this much-respected community institution was legally changed to the Peacham Library, Inc. (Peacham Library), reflecting its actual patronage, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 2001, a major addition nearly doubling the building's size, funded with state and local contributions and including The Gilmore Gallery, in honor of major donor Horace Gilmore, was opened, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the Peacham Library is now the setting for many community events, ranging from cinematic presentations to art exhibitions, and has over 500 registered patrons and a collection exceeding 9,200 volumes, and

<u>Whereas</u>, on August 8, 2010, Peacham residents will joyously and proudly celebrate the library's bicentennial anniversary, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Peacham Library on its bicentennial anniversary, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Cornelia Hasenfuss, treasurer of the Peacham Library.

H.C.R. 364.

House concurrent resolution honoring Dr. Peter M. Wright for his leadership in public education

Offered by: Representatives Manwaring of Wilmington and Moran of Wardsboro

Offered by: Senators Shumlin, White, Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, Dr. Peter M. Wright has served as the superintendent of the Windham Southwest Supervisory Union for 22 years, and

<u>Whereas</u>, he has ably assisted the school boards in the towns of Wilmington, Whitingham, Halifax, Readsboro, and Stamford, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the many ways in which Dr. Peter Wright assisted the towns in the Windham Southwest Supervisory Union have included local budget development, contract negotiations, curriculum revisions, supervision of teachers who work in several schools, and as an interpreter of new state education laws and rules, and

Whereas, for 70 years, the towns of Wilmington and Whitingham had tried on more than one occasion to merge their high schools, and

<u>Whereas</u>, during Dr. Peter Wright's tenure, the two towns were able to form a merger, using a creative mechanism resulting in the establishment of the Twin Valley Middle School and the Twin Valley High School, and

<u>Whereas</u>, on a regional basis, he has served as a commissioner with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and

<u>Whereas</u>, Dr. Peter Wright has announced his retirement at the end of the 2009–2010 school year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Dr. Peter M. Wright for his leadership in public education, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Peter Wright at the Windham Southwest Supervisor Union in Wilmington, Vermont.

H.C.R. 365.

House concurrent resolution welcoming the National Speleological Society to Vermont for its 2010 national convention

Offered by: Representatives Nease of Johnson, Acinapura of Brandon, Andrews of Rutland City, Baker of West Rutland, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven, Browning of Arlington, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clarkson of Woodstock, Conquest of Newbury, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Crawford of Burke, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donovan of Burlington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Emmons of Springfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Hooper of Montpelier, Howard of Cambridge, Klein of East

Montpelier, Krebs of South Hero, Larocque of Barnet, Lenes of Shelburne, Leriche of Hardwick, Lewis of Derby, Macaig of Williston, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McDonald of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Myers of Essex, Orr of Charlotte, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Peaslee of Guildhall, Pellett of Chester, Peltz of Woodbury, Perley of Enosburg, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Shaw of Pittsford, Smith of Mendon, Spengler of Colchester, Till of Jericho, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Winters of Williamstown and Wizowaty of Burlington

<u>Whereas</u>, the National Speleological Society (NSS) is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the scientific study of caves and karst; the protection of caves and their natural contents through conservation, ownership, stewardship, and public education; and the promotion of responsible cave exploration and fellowship among those interested in caves, and

<u>Whereas</u>, a small group of scientists and cave explorers established the NSS in 1941 at a meeting in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, today the NSS has over 11,000 members in all the states and territories of the United States, and

<u>Whereas</u>, through its individual member scientists, explorers, and conservationists, the NSS has become the premier organization dedicated to educating the public concerning all aspects of caves and karst and their protection, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the NSS is in the forefront of the battle to eradicate White Nose Syndrome (WNS), a disease currently devastating bats hibernating in American caves, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the society's efforts to end the WNS epidemic include raising funds for research grants, conducting field and laboratory research, and assisting state and federal agencies to find the cause of WNS and to prevent its spread, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the NSS has chosen Vermont as the site of its 2010 annual national convention, to be held August 2–6 at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the organization's membership will conduct business meetings; attend workshops and scientific presentations; educate the public about WNS, cave safety, and rescue procedures; present picturesque cave photography and

videography; and enjoy the best of Vermont's art, food, music, and natural beauty, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the Vermont Cavers' Association (Grotto 394 of the National Speleological Society) and especially its members Ken Moore and Rick Pingree have devoted years of effort in advance planning to assure that the NSS convention to be held in Vermont this summer is a great success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly welcomes the National Speleological Society to Vermont for its 2010 national convention, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ken Moore.