

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

**SENATE and HOUSE
CALENDAR**

OF

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009

CONSENT CALENDAR

Concurrent Resolutions for Notice under Joint Rule 16

The following joint concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House and will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration before the end of the session of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Secretary's office and/or the House Clerk's office, respectively.

By Senators Snelling, Ashe, Ayer, Bartlett, Choate, Cummings, Doyle, Flanagan, Giard, Kitchel, Lyons, Miller, Racine, and Scott,

By Representatives Crawford of Burke, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lippert of Hinesburg, Minter of Waterbury, Morley of Barton, Rodgers of Glover, and Stevens of Waterbury,

S.C.R. 14.

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Vermont winners of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Whereas, in 2009, for the 14th consecutive year, Prudential Financial, in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, presented the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards which recognize outstanding youth volunteers, and

Whereas, the awards recognize four students from each state and the District of Columbia, including two state honorees and two distinguished finalists, and

Whereas, the 2009 Vermont state honorees are Courtney Devoid of Hinesburg, a student at Mt. Abraham Union High School, and Lydia Ham, a home-schooled 8th grader from Sheffield, and

Whereas, Courtney Devoid is a leader of the Vermont Sustainable Heating Initiative, an organization consisting of over 200 students from 26 high schools and several colleges that promotes biomass pellets as a home heating fuel and has taken concrete steps toward this objective, and

Whereas, Lydia Ham, in association with her grandfather's church, collected goods for and personally worked on construction projects at The Shadow of His Wings Orphanage in Guatemala, and

Whereas, each state honoree receives a \$1,000.00 prize and a silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to compete for national honors, and

Whereas, Eden Berube, a Lyndon Institute senior from Lyndon Center, and Gabriela Meade, a Harwood Union High senior from Waterbury, were each honored as distinguished finalists and will each be presented a bronze medallion honoring her work as a volunteer, and

Whereas, Eden Berube established The Princess Project that lends gowns and tuxedos to high school students who cannot afford a prom wardrobe, and Gabriela Meade led a \$68,000.00 fundraising effort to install energy efficient lightbulbs in her school, and

Whereas, each of these students is an excellent example of a young community leader of the best possible kind, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Vermont winners of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the award winners honored in this resolution.

By Senators Illuzzi, Campbell, Carris, Flanagan, Hartwell, McCormack, Sears and Shumlin,

S.C.R. 15.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding public service of Thomas Anderson, United States Attorney for the District of Vermont.

Whereas, Thomas Anderson's distinguished legal career began following his graduation from St. Michael's College and Seton Hall Law School, and

Whereas, for five years, Thomas Anderson practiced law at the Burlington law firm of Sheehy, Furlong, and Behm where he rose to the position of managing partner, and

Whereas, as a state prosecutor, he served for three years as a deputy state's attorney for Essex and Orleans Counties and also worked as a special assistant attorney general, and

Whereas, 17 years of Thomas Anderson's work as a lawyer have been dedicated to his role as a federal prosecutor, the first 14 of which he served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, and

Whereas, in May 2006, President George W. Bush, on the recommendation of Governor James Douglas and with the support of United States Senator Patrick Leahy, nominated him to the position of United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, and the United States Senate confirmed his nomination shortly thereafter, and

Whereas, during his almost three years as Vermont's United States Attorney, Thomas Anderson always emphasized the vital importance of collaboration between federal, state and local law enforcement authorities, and

Whereas, under his leadership, the Vermont United States Attorney's office experienced a 20-percent increase in filed criminal charges and a 31-percent increase in the prosecution of defendants, and

Whereas, he devoted special attention to several important areas of law enforcement, including child pornography and enticement, and he organized an Internet safety summit at the State House in Montpelier, and

Whereas, multi-district drug crimes were high on Thomas Anderson's prosecutorial agenda, and this special focus reflected 40 percent of his office's prosecutions, including the 24-defendant Operation Marble Valley, and

Whereas, he led the federal-state investigation into the tragic Brooke Bennett case and also focused on cases related to violent gun crimes, and

Whereas, on February 28, 2009, Thomas Anderson concluded his successful tenure as United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, and he has accepted a new challenging position at the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly thanks Thomas Anderson for his outstanding public service as United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, *and be it further*

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

H.C.R. 69

House concurrent resolution congratulating the primary care providers' offices in the Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital service area that the National Committee for Quality Assurance has designated as patient-centered medical homes

Offered by: Representatives Reis of St. Johnsbury, Crawford of Burke, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, South of St. Johnsbury and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Kitchel and Choate

Whereas, Act 71 of 2007 established the blueprint for health as a statewide initiative to improve public health, disease prevention, and the care for persons with chronic illness, and

Whereas, an important blueprint for health project is the integrated medical home and community care team pilot, which involves selected primary care providers' offices in several counties being designated as patient-centered medical homes in accordance with nine standards that the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) released in January 2008, and

Whereas, these nine standards are extremely rigorous, and, to date, only a limited number of primary care providers' offices nationwide have earned this distinguished designation, and

Whereas, the nine standards cover "access and communication, patient tracking and registry functions, care management, test and referral tracking, patient self management support, and electronic prescribing," and

Whereas, "a patient-centered medical home is a model for providing comprehensive primary care that emphasizes a whole person orientation," and

Whereas, the first Vermont primary care providers' offices that NCQA has designated as patient-centered medical homes are located in Caledonia and southern Essex counties in the Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital service area and include the following Northern Counties Health Care health centers: Caledonia Internal Medicine in St. Johnsbury, Concord Health Center, Danville Health Center, St. Johnsbury Family Health Center, and the NVRH Corner Medical in Lyndon, and

Whereas, as part of the blueprint for health, these health care centers and the primary care providers' offices in other counties subsequently designated as patient-centered medical homes will be subject to continuous assessment, but the initial designation marks a major milestone in the process of improving the delivery of patient-centered, wellness, and prevention-focused primary health care to Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the primary care providers' offices in the St. Johnsbury area integrated pilots that the National Committee for Quality Assurance has designated as patient-centered medical homes, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the health care centers honored in this resolution.

H.C.R. 70

House concurrent resolution honoring the federal TRIO programs in Vermont

Offered by: Representative Jerman of Essex

Whereas, promoting the academic success of students who come from families with minimal economic resources and who aspire to be the first members of their families to attend college is the laudable goal of the federal TRIO programs, and, in Vermont, these important academic preparatory programs serve students at seven colleges and through the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, and

Whereas, Upward Bound, the original federally financed college incentive program for disadvantaged students, was established in 1965 under the auspices of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity, and, in coordination with the later-established Upward Bound Math Science, helps secondary school students from financially disadvantaged families prepare for college, and

Whereas, the Talent Search Program, initially authorized in the Higher Education Act of 1965, assists students early in the college admissions and financial aid process, and

Whereas, the federal Education Amendments of 1968 reauthorized these two original programs, established Special Services for Disadvantaged Students, and united all three under the umbrella of the federal Office (now Department) of Education, and

Whereas, this threesome of special programs for students from low income backgrounds became known informally as TRIO, and

Whereas, over the ensuing decades, additional programs such as Veterans Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program have all been added to the TRIO mix, and

Whereas, in 1992, Congress renamed and combined all of the programs as the federal TRIO programs, and

Whereas, the federal TRIO programs continue to be a special gateway for financially disadvantaged students to achieve their higher education hopes and dreams, and

Whereas, students and administrators representing the federal TRIO programs in Vermont are visiting the state house today, Tuesday, March 17, 2009, and their visit provides an opportunity to recognize the important educational and societal roles of the federal TRIO programs, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly is pleased to honor the outstanding work of the federal TRIO programs in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Karen Madden at Johnson State College.

H.C.R. 71

House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding work of child care providers in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of S. Burlington, Andrews of Rutland City, Botzow of Pownal, Clark of Vergennes, Clerkin of Hartford, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Gilbert of Fairfax, Haas of Rochester, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Maier of Middlebury, Marcotte of Coventry, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney, Nease of Johnson, O'Donnell of Vernon, Orr of Charlotte, Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburg, Shand of Weathersfield, Smith of Mendon, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Wilson of Manchester, Zenie of Colchester and Zuckerman of Burlington

Offered by: Senator Racine

Whereas, today's young children are tomorrow's voters, workers, taxpayers, and parents, and

Whereas, a good start helps ensure both a child's and Vermont's future prosperity, and

Whereas, science tells us that early experiences establish the architecture of a child's developing brain, and nurturing and individualized interactions with adults at home and in the community build a strong foundation for future growth and development, and

Whereas, the quality of early childhood experiences establishes either a sturdy or a fragile foundation for all development that follows, and

Whereas, child development is community development as well as economic development, as healthy, capable children are the building blocks of a solid and productive society, and

Whereas, the 5,000 child care providers in Vermont are essential to the state's economic growth, and they contribute to the creation or support of 2,232 indirect jobs, and

Whereas, although 85 percent of a child's core brain structure is formed by the age of four years, less than nine percent of public investments in education and development are made by that time, and

Whereas, we must work together to meet their needs to ensure that all Vermont children grow into solid community members and active participants in our economy, and

Whereas, concerned Vermonters will gather at the state house on March 18, 2009 to inform their state legislators about the importance of making high-quality early childhood care and education services accessible and affordable to all Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the outstanding work of child care providers in Vermont who are visiting the state house on March 18, 2009, which is Early Childhood Day at the legislature, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the sponsoring organizations of the Kids Are Priority One Early Childhood Coalition, including Voices for Vermont's Children, Windham Child Care, Vermont Family Network, Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children, Mama Says, and the Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council.

H.C.R. 72

House concurrent resolution congratulating Spectrum Youth and Family Services on its winning the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Donahue of Northfield, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Keenan of St. Albans City, Larson of Burlington, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, in 1970, community leaders in Burlington were alarmed at the rising number of at-risk youth who were running away from foster homes, and these leaders joined with the Burlington Ecumenical Ministry to establish a new organization, Shelter Action, to help lead these troubled young persons on to a better life's path, and

Whereas, now known as Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the organization today provides a menu of interrelated services far beyond the core program envisioned when it was founded, and

Whereas, these youth-support services include personal counseling, domestic abuse education, a drop-in center, educational guidance and preparation, a health clinic, job assistance, a juvenile justice center, a mentoring program, the street outreach effort, student assistance, and the youth development services program, and

Whereas, during nearly four decades of serving the Burlington area's at-risk youth, Spectrum Youth and Family Services has evolved into an organization with a widely known reputation for excellence, innovation, and success, and

Whereas, in recognition of the organization's special commitment to at-risk youth and the commendable record of success it has achieved, Spectrum Youth and Family Services has been named the winner of the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award, and

Whereas, in honoring Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the National Network for Youth cited in particular the organization's "transformative move toward Outcome-Based accountability," and "the positive results that your staff display," and

Whereas, the award was presented to Spectrum Youth and Family Services at the National Youth Network's annual awards celebration and congressional reception in Washington, D.C., now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Spectrum Youth and Family Services on winning the 2009 National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Executive Director Mark Redmond of Spectrum Youth and Family Services in Burlington.

H.C.R. 73

House concurrent resolution honoring Jayne Barber on her outstanding 28-year coaching career at Bellows Falls Union High School

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Partridge of Windham, Deen of Westminster and Mrowicki of Putney

Offered by: Senators Shumlin and White

Whereas, Jayne Barber has a long and illustrious association with the women's basketball program at Bellows Falls Union High School (BFUHS), first as a player and for 28 years as the team's coach, and

Whereas, while a member of the BFUHS Terriers' women's basketball team, she scored over 1,000 points and was a highly respected team player, and

Whereas, after graduation from BFUHS, Jayne Barber continued her education at Springfield College in Massachusetts where she earned a bachelor's degree, and

Whereas, after completing college, she returned home to Windham County, and her outstanding history as a girl's basketball Terrier resulted in her appointment as the team's coach, and

Whereas, during her coaching tenure, Jayne Barber directed the Terriers to five state championships, once in Division I, and on four occasions in Division

II, and her squads reached the final fours in the state girls' basketball playoffs twice as a Division I competitor and eight times as a Division II contender, and

Whereas, Jayne Barber's Terriers took home the championship in the Marble Valley League six times and won four similar honors in the Connecticut Valley League, and

Whereas, the Marble Valley League named Jayne Barber its coach of year seven times, and the Connecticut Valley League presented her with its version of this tribute after five different basketball seasons, and

Whereas, during the 2002–2003 season, the Terriers were undefeated in Division I, and Jayne Barber was presented a Rawlings Award in recognition of this achievement, and was named the Vermont Basketball Association Coach of the Year, and

Whereas, Jayne Barber is extremely versatile and was the coach of two state divisional championship Terrier field hockey teams and, in 1996, was inducted into the BFUHS Terriers Hall of Fame, and

Whereas, after 28 seasons, Jayne Barber is leaving the bench, and in her honor, many present and past girls' basketball coaches from around the state participated in a surprise farewell ceremony during her final home game on February 20, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Jayne Barber on her outstanding 28-year coaching career at Bellows Falls Union High School, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jayne Barber at Bellows Falls Union High School.

H.C.R. 74

House concurrent resolution congratulating University of Vermont basketball player Marqus Blakely on his 1,000th career point and award-winning accomplishments

Offered by: Representatives Ram of Burlington, Atkins of Winooski, Bray of New Haven, Canfield of Fair Haven, Cheney of Norwich, Clerkin of Hartford, Frank of Underhill, Head of South Burlington, Howrigan of Fairfield, Jewett of Ripton, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lenes of Shelburne, Maier of Middlebury, Masland of Thetford, Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburg, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Rodgers of Glover, Savage of Swanton, Stevens of Waterbury and Weston of Burlington

Whereas, one of the brightest stars and most valued players on the University of Vermont basketball team is junior Marqus Blakely of Metuchen, New Jersey, and

Whereas, the extent of his offensive skill was adeptly exhibited at an away game against the State University of New York at Stony Brook on January 17, 2009 when he scored his 1,000th career point, and

Whereas, this impressive scoring plateau was reached in a game in which Marqus Blakely was extremely successful on the scoring front with a total of 20 points, one more than he needed to reach the magic mark, including sending the ball through the hoop on 7 of 10 attempts from the floor, and

Whereas, he also achieved five boards, three steals, and two blocks during the course of play, and the Catamounts left Stony Brook victorious with a convincing 83–72 win over their America East rival, and

Whereas, Marqus Blakely is the 28th basketball Catamount to achieve this scoring distinction, and

Whereas, the junior began this year after an extraordinary sophomore season that featured him leading America East in point, rebounds, and blocks per game; only the second league player to be at the top in each category, and

Whereas, in recognition of his amazing 2007–2008 record, Marqus Blakely earned the special honor of being the first player in the league’s history to be named both the Kevin Roberson America East Player of the Year and the Defensive Player of the Year during the same season, and

Whereas, Marqus Blakely continues to enthrall his many fans during the Catamounts 2008–2009 hoop campaign, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates University of Vermont basketball player Marqus Blakely on his 1,000th career point and award-winning accomplishments, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Marqus Blakely at the University of Vermont.

H.C.R. 75

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Albert D. Lawton Middle School boys’ A-basketball ADL tournament championship team

Offered by: Representatives Jerman of Essex, Evans of Essex, Heath of Westford, Myers of Essex and Waite-Simpson of Essex

Whereas, for 39 years, the ADL (Albert D. Lawton) basketball tournament has showcased the best in middle school basketball competition in Chittenden County, and

Whereas, the boys A-team representing the tournament hosting Albert D. Lawton School (ADL Chargers) of Essex entered the 2009 event as the two-time defending champions, and

Whereas, the ADL Chargers, after drawing an opening round bye, played their first tournament contest against the Colchester Cougars, who they had twice defeated during the regular season, and

Whereas, the Cougars' capabilities on the court were adeptly exhibited as they completed the first half with a seven-point lead, and

Whereas, not at all discouraged, the reinvigorated Chargers executed five three-point plays during the second half, impressively defeating the Cougars

46–30, and earning a slot in the championship game against the Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School of South Burlington, and

Whereas, the first half of the championship game played on the Chargers' home court ended with the Essex team holding a precarious 15–14 lead, and

Whereas, the Chargers became extremely serious championship contenders in the second half as one team member scored 10 points during the third quarter, and another threw seven successful foul shots in the fourth quarter, and

Whereas, the final buzzer sounded victory for the Chargers as they beat the Tuttle team 43–35, becoming the first team ever to win three consecutive ADL tournament championship titles, and

Whereas, these dedicated young basketball players, including Luke O'Connell, Jeff Kent, Lukas Armstrong-Laird, Jason Freidman, Ryan Perry, Mizra Smajic, Sam Terry, Frank Puleo, Jacob Rodriquez, Joey Picard, Bradan Merrill, Tom Carton, Steve Jurkiewicz, and Justin Ward, proudly represented their school on the basketball court, and

Whereas, coach Brad Luck, assistant coach Ryan Leithead, and team managers Brad Bissonnette and Chad Holcomb deserve credit for their respective roles in the team's success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Albert D. Lawton Middle School boys' A-basketball ADL tournament championship team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brad Luck in Essex.

H.C.R. 76

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Springfield Cosmos Division II championship boys' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Martin of Springfield, Emmons of Springfield, Pellett of Chester and Shand of Weathersfield

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, Springfield High School had waited nearly half a century for a boys' basketball championship, having last brought home the sport's top prize in 1960, and

Whereas, the precision regular season play of the 2008–2009 squad led the Cosmos' supporters to hope that in 2009 their hometown school would celebrate the glory of winning the Division II boys' basketball championship, and

Whereas, prepared to play their best when it truly counted, the Cosmos earned the right to play in the Division II season's ultimate boys' basketball game at the Barre Auditorium against the equally well prepared

Vergennes Union High School Commodores, and

Whereas, when the game's midpoint arrived, Springfield's single point deficit posed a challenge the Cosmos would need to surmount as soon as play resumed, and

Whereas, when the second half commenced, the newly energized Springfield team unleashed an offensive effort that overwhelmed its opponent, and

Whereas, by the start of the final quarter, the Cosmos team was the owner of a 40–28 lead, and, at the final buzzer, it was the jubilant Springfield players who celebrated a stunning come-from-behind 59–31 victory, and

Whereas, each Cosmos basketball player, including Derek Graham, Ethan McAllister, Brandon Boyle, Tyler Albee, Ryan Brady, Billy Wheeler, Anthony Dana, Derek Otis, Grant White, Tim Wallace, and Keith Cook, can take pride in his contribution to this historic victory and the fantastic 2008–2009 18–6 season, and

Whereas, Coach Lester "Pete" Peck and assistant coaches Michael Hatt, Brian Raponotti, and Cole Lewis proved to be great teachers and advisors to this talented group of young athletes, and

Whereas, the expertise of athletic trainer Matt Howland proved invaluable throughout the season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Springfield Cosmos Division II championship boys' basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Lester Peck at Springfield High School.

H.C.R. 77

House concurrent resolution congratulating William "Bill" Collins on answering his 10,000th call for the Bennington Rescue Squad

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Krawczyk of Bennington and Mook of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, rescue squad volunteers are individuals dedicated to helping others in their community, often at moments of extreme personal emergency and regardless of the time of day or night, and

Whereas, William Collins's commitment to rescue squad service has lasted far longer than that of many of his colleagues on the Bennington Rescue Squad, and

Whereas, with both CPR and first aid training, he was an ideal candidate for squad membership when he joined in September of 1977, and

Whereas, he quickly acclimated to the unusual hours and varied situations that emergency responders must continuously confront, and he became known as a squad member who could be relied upon around the clock, and

Whereas, he demonstrated his interest in the quality of his work through his earning certification as an EMT-basic, and

Whereas, since 1977, William Collins's association with the Bennington Rescue Squad has not been limited to emergency calls, as he has assumed several administrative roles in the organization including service as the assistant executive director and interim executive director, membership on the executive and finance committees, and terms as both squad vice president and president, and

Whereas, in 2005, the Bennington Rescue Squad honored him with a special award for his many years of meritorious service, and

Whereas, William Collins, whose B-12 call signal is among the most commonly heard on airwaves of the Bennington Rescue Squad, responded to his 10,000th call for help on January 20, 2009, a remarkable milestone in an amazing tenure of public service on behalf of his community, and

Whereas, his 10,000th call was hardly his last, as William Collins intends to continue his service with the Bennington Rescue Squad well beyond the date of this historic call, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates William Collins on answering his 10,000th call for the Bennington Rescue Squad, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to William Collins in Bennington.

H.C.R. 78

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 U-32 High School Raiders Division II championship Nordic ski team

Offered by: Representatives Klein of East Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, McDonald of Berlin, Peltz of Woodbury and Smith of Morristown

Whereas, since U-32 introduced competitive interscholastic Nordic skiing a decade ago, the sport has blossomed into a popular school activity, and

Whereas, from a modest start, the program has improved incrementally to become among the most respected in the state, and

Whereas, 2009 marked a major turning point in Nordic skiing at U-32, as the team won the Division II championship for the first time, surpassing other schools with a far more established presence in the sport, and

Whereas, this athletic milestone for U-32 can be attributed to the skiers' outstanding performances in the classical segment of competition at the state Nordic skiing meet conducted on March 4 at the Mountain Top Ski Touring Center in Chittenden, and

Whereas, in the classical individual race, U-32 skiers placed second, sixth, and seventh, scoring only 14 points to the second place finishers 48, and

Whereas, in the team relay that followed, the U-32 team's total skiing time of 35:50.1 was over two and one-half minutes quicker than second-place finisher BFA-Fairfax, and

Whereas, when all the meet's times were tallied, U-32 had beaten all of its competitors handily, surpassing second-place BFA-Fairfax 44-132, and

Whereas, U32's swift-paced team of skiers from Washington County towns, including Kelcie Bean, Holly Bushman, Rebecca Coryell, Nell Davis, Chelsea Evans, Helena Kehne, Larissa Kehne, Theresa Kehne, and Esther Nemethy, traversed the course speedily and competently, and

Whereas, coaches Mark Chaplin and Kathy Topping have dedicated considerable effort into building a championship team that is respected among its competitors, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 U-32 High School Raiders Division II championship Nordic ski team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mark Chaplin at U-32 High School.

H.C.R. 79

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Panton General Store on its receipt of a 2009 Vermont Centennial Business Award

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, the office of the secretary of state, in cooperation with Vermont Business Magazine and the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, annually recognizes businesses in the state that have endured as economic enterprises for a century or more, and

Whereas, this entrepreneurial longevity represents a commitment to continuing and nurturing a business through both the good and bad economic times that inevitably occur over the course of a century, and

Whereas, in 2009, 11 businesses were recognized at a state house ceremony on March 5 where each honoree was presented a Vermont Centennial Business Award, and

Whereas, beginning in 1848, the Panton General Store has offered household goods and other useful wares to its loyal customers, and

Whereas, the store's home since 1908 is an historic 18th-century building on Panton's crossroads and was originally a local surgeon's residence, and

Whereas, despite the changes in purchasing habits through the decades, the Panton General Store has kept pace with the times and consumers' preferences in merchandise, and

Whereas, the Panton General Store's current owner, Andy Megroz, has focused his attention, in part, on serving the area's many summer tourists who are delighted to visit and patronize a mercantile establishment that is unique and offers them needed supplies in a convivial and interesting setting, and

Whereas, at 161 years of age, the Panton General Store remains a thriving and successful locally owned business that is meeting the challenges of the 21st century marketplace, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Panton General Store on its receipt of a 2009 Vermont Centennial Business Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Andy Megroz at the Panton General Store.

H.C.R. 80

House concurrent resolution congratulating the J.W. & D.E. Ryan plumbing and heating contractors on the receipt of a 2009 Vermont Centennial Business Award

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, in 1885, Robert Hudson established a business in Vergennes that specialized in stoves and tinware, and

Whereas, this enterprise continued to operate as R. Hudson until 1909 when his nephews, John W. Ryan and David E. Ryan, formed a partnership and assumed control of their uncle's business, and

Whereas, under the direction of the Ryan brothers, the business name was changed to J.W. & D.E. Ryan, and its operations were transformed into a full-service plumbing and heating contracting firm, and

Whereas, in 1946, Ralph, the son of John, and Robert, the son of David, joined the partnership, continuing the family business into a third generation, and

Whereas, in 1974, the family's next generation joined the business when Robert's son, Timothy, entered the business, and he purchased it in 1979, and

Whereas, Tim Ryan has continued J.W. & D.E. Ryan's reputation for excellence, employing highly trained staff, and

Whereas, in recent years, J.W. & D.E. Ryan has expanded its field of expertise to include work on solar and geothermal utility units, positioning the firm for the emerging business opportunities of the 21st century, and

Whereas, the office of the secretary of state, in cooperation with *Vermont Business Magazine* and the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, annually presents Vermont Centennial Business Awards to Vermont enterprises that have operated for at least a century, and

Whereas, in 2009, J.W. & D.E. Ryan celebrate the centennial anniversary of its trade name, and it has operated in the same location for over 120 years, and

Whereas, this venerable, but future-oriented, Vergennes business was honored on March 5, at a state house ceremony, as one of the 11 Vermont Centennial Business Award winners of 2009, and

Whereas, the century-long entrepreneurial dedication of the Ryan family to maintaining and growing J.W. & D.E. Ryan as a thriving local business has now been recognized with this award, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates J.W. & D.E. Ryan on its receipt of a 2009 Vermont Centennial Business Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tim Ryan in Vergennes.

H.C.R. 81

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Vergennes Union High School Commodores Division II championship cheerleading team

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, for a second consecutive year, the Vergennes Union High School Commodores have exhibited a superb mastery of the skills and artistry that are required for successful cheerleading, and

Whereas, throughout the 2009 season, fans of Vergennes Union High School's athletic teams have appreciated the cheerleaders' athleticism, coordinated timing, enthusiasm, and readiness to cheer when the moment is right, and

Whereas, when the state's high school cheerleading teams gathered for their annual competition at the Essex Fairgrounds on February 21, the Commodores Division II competitors knew that the defending champions were serious contenders to once again cheer their way to a state title, and

Whereas, when the state tournament's exciting competition was completed, the Commodores were far and away the Division II winners with an impressive 145 points in comparison to runner-up Milton which earned a respectable 126 points for its performances, and

Whereas, the Vergennes 2009 victory was especially impressive as this year's team had a smaller roster than in past seasons and included four members who were cheering for their first season, and

Whereas, these outstanding cheerleading Commodores included Dana O'Brien, Anna Hamer, Aaron Clodgo, Jean Cunningham, April Karzmarczyk, Nichole Hamer, Michaela Sorrell, Katie Viau, Jessica Laughlin, Kelsey Howard, Brittany Ouellette, Alexis Quesnel, Shelby Sheehan, and Michelle Stark who, despite being unable to compete at Essex, has been an active team member all season, and

Whereas, the great leadership of coach Debra Hall and of assistant coach Dani Hausler was an invaluable contribution to Vergennes' victory, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2009 Vergennes Union High School Commodores Division II championship cheerleading team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Debra Hall at Vergennes Union High School.

H.C.R. 82

House concurrent resolution recognizing the work of the Brattleboro community to combat racial and ethnic intolerance

Offered by: Representatives Edwards of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, Milkey of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster, Marek of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney and O'Donnell of Vernon

Whereas, in June 2008, the faculty and administration at Brattleboro Union High School discovered the existence of a student organization espousing racial hatred, and

Whereas, Vermont Safe Schools Education Consultant Charles Johnson, in consultation with local school and community leaders, soon initiated a process of examination and action to address the problems of racial intolerance in Brattleboro, and to develop ways to foster better understanding among individuals of diverse racial backgrounds, and

Whereas, the resulting "Future Search Conference" recently conducted a three-day meeting at which over 60 representatives of every gender, age, and racial group in Brattleboro participated, and

Whereas, the meeting sought both immediate and long-term constructive responses to the divisive racial bigotry that has surfaced at Brattleboro Union High School, and

Whereas, as a first step, school officials will be strengthening equity committees and diversity initiatives, especially with elementary-age students, and

Whereas, American Sign Language will be offered at BUHS and new relationships developed with the Boys and Girls Clubs where many of the students spend their time, and

Whereas, aside from the school-related programs, one of the most ambitious proposals is to establish the Wubuntu website as the new communications resource for the Future Search Conference, a name selected because it draws on the South African term “Ubuntu” meaning a person open and available to others plus the “W” standing for Windham County, and

Whereas, other initiatives under the conference’s auspices include taking steps to make Brattleboro a community that honors racial and ethnic diversity and dedicating the 2009 Fourth of July parade to the theme of diversity, and

Whereas, nonprofit organizations are being asked to work together to leverage any available federal stimulus funds to finance tolerance-related projects, and

Whereas, two other new organizations, the “No Bystander Movement” and the Racial Issues Steering Committee, are acting to instill a spirit of harmony and understanding in the increasingly diverse Brattleboro community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commends the constructive and innovative initiatives of the Future Search Conference and other organizations that are intended to reverse the climate of racial intolerance that has darkened the community discourse and emotional climate in Brattleboro, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Future Search Conference, Brattleboro Union High School Principal James T. Day, Brattleboro Town Manager Barbara Sondag, Brattleboro Area Interfaith Clergy Association Pastor Lise Sparrow, Vermont Safe Schools Coordinator Charles Johnson, and ALANA Community Organization Director Curtiss Reed Jr.