

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

February 9, 2012

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

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

Resolutions

H.C.R. 254.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Springfield High School Division II championship softball team

Offered by: Representatives Martin of Springfield, Emmons of Springfield and Dakin of Chester

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, fans who attended the 2011 Division II softball championship at Poultney witnessed the first-seeded Springfield High School Cosmos turn back a challenge from the third-seeded Lyndon Institute Vikings, and

Whereas, the path to victory for Springfield began ominously when a powerful Lyndon two-run homer sailed over the centerfield fence during the Vikings' first time at bat, and

Whereas, the next scoring came on a four-run Springfield barrage, in, of course, the fourth inning, resulting from two consecutive singles, a double, Lyndon dropping a tossed ball at home plate when one of the Springfield squad bunted, and concluding with a sacrifice fly and another bunt, and

Whereas, this scoring spree spurred the Cosmos' pitcher to retire 10 consecutive Viking batters, and during the course of the game, nine Lyndon hitters returned to the dugout after striking out, and

Whereas, even though Lyndon hit a single-run homer in the seventh inning, this display of Viking bat connectivity did not deter the Cosmos from an ultimate 5-3 game victory and winning their school's first state softball title in a quarter of a century, and

Whereas, the talented roster of Springfield players, including Amanda Farnsworth, Alexis Locke, Jessie Haskell, Sarah Vredenburgh, Kristin Cook, Jenna Paul, Emma Esty, Jillian Rushton, Jennifer Stein, Andrea Allen, Sarah Locke, Heather Sanborn, Meghan Courchesne, Kaylee Haskell, and Julia Stein, was thrilled with its season of success on the softball field, and

Whereas, Head Coach Andy Bladyka, assistant coaches Michael Langdon, Amanda Osborne, and Kelly O'Connor, and team manager John Tarbell each played a role in bringing the 2011 Division II softball championship to Springfield High School, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Springfield High School Division II championship softball team, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 255.

House concurrent resolution urging the restoration of intercity bus service to Rutland City

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, Acinapura of Brandon, Andrews of Rutland City, Canfield of Fair Haven, Courcelle of Rutland City, Donaghy of Poultney, Eckhardt of Chittenden, Fagan of Rutland City, French of Shrewsbury, Helm of Fair Haven, Malcolm of Pawlet, McNeil of Rutland Town, Potter of Clarendon and Shaw of Pittsford

Offered by: Senators Carris, Flory and Mullin

Whereas, Rutland City, the second largest city in Vermont, has confronted transportation challenges for many years, as have many other communities in Vermont, and

Whereas, unlike Burlington, the state's largest city to the north, Rutland City lacks immediate access to the nation's interstate highway system, and highway passage to the east is especially challenging in the wintertime across Route 4, which winds on an upward path through the Green Mountains, and

Whereas, intercity Amtrak connections are limited to the Ethan Allen Express, featuring a single inbound and outbound Amtrak train each day, and

Whereas, air service is restricted to the three daily flights between Southern Vermont Regional Airport and Boston, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, although Marble Valley Regional Transit District provides bus service within Rutland City and to Fair Haven, Manchester, and Middlebury, none is offered beyond these locations, and

Whereas, for many years, Vermont Transit (which operated as a subsidiary of Greyhound Lines Inc. from the 1970s until 2008) provided intercity bus service from Rutland north to Burlington, south to Albany, New York, and east

to White River Junction, with connections from these destinations to points across the United States and Canada, and

Whereas, the Albany–Burlington route, an important service along Vermont’s western corridor, was terminated in 2005, and

Whereas, the remaining two-way service from White River Junction to Rutland took to the highway for the final time in 2008, and

Whereas, the lack of even limited intercity bus service for over three years has deprived Rutland area residents of the most affordable means of long distance transportation, and presents a hurdle for travelers attempting to reach the Rutland area, and

Whereas, Rutland boasts a state-of-the-art multi-modal transit center that could readily accommodate additional bus traffic and passengers, and

Whereas, the discontinuance or lack of intercity bus service is a problem statewide, and the agency of transportation is currently undertaking a study of intercity bus needs in the state and funding priorities for the establishment of new intercity bus lines, and

Whereas, the restoration of at least limited intercity bus service would be a welcome transportation option for Rutland residents and for residents of the state as a whole, and would prove economically beneficial for the Rutland area and the state, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly urges the agency of transportation to complete expeditiously its study of intercity bus needs and funding priorities, and urges the restoration of intercity bus service to and from Rutland and the provision of intercity bus service to and from other communities with demonstrated intercity transportation needs, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to David Leach, president and chief executive officer, Greyhound Lines Inc., Dallas, Texas; Randall Charlebois, general manager and vice president, Premier Coach Company, Inc., Milton, Vermont; Jeff Adams, director of marketing, Yankee Trails World Travel, Rensselaer, New York; Eric Chatier, manager, Dartmouth Coach, Concord, New Hampshire; Peter A. Picknelly, president and chief executive officer, Peter Pan Bus Lines Inc., Springfield, Massachusetts; John Sharrow, manager, Mountain Transit Inc, Milton, Vermont; Harry Blunt Jr., president, Concord Coach Lines, Concord, New Hampshire; and Brian Searles, Vermont secretary of transportation.

H.C.R. 256.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee on the district's designation as a Class II water system

Offered by: Representative Acinapura of Brandon

Whereas, in 1985, the state of Vermont adopted the Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategies with four classifications of drinkable groundwater ranging from Class IV (the lowest) to Class I (the highest), and

Whereas, Brandon Fire District #1 operates a groundwater-based drinking water system that serves approximately 3,865 people and does not apply any chemicals or other purification process to the water, and

Whereas, in 2000, Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter sought to upgrade the quality and classification of the system, but the state responded that the upgrading procedures were not yet established, and

Whereas, according to the *Brandon Reporter*, as a preliminary measure, Superintendent Ray Counter partnered with the Vermont Geological Survey to obtain federal STATEMAP funds "to map the surface geology and produce maps for groundwater resources," and he also secured United States Environmental Protection Agency support to investigate the system's hydraulic connection, and

Whereas, although these projects were completed several years ago, the water quality division only recently completed the procedures for system classification review, and the district completed the newly developed process, and

Whereas, as a condition of being awarded an improved classification, the district agreed to not engage in activities detrimental to the purity of the water including: not creating improperly constructed or protected wells; not installing underground storage tanks that do not meet agency of natural resources standards; and not discharging into the groundwater hazardous or radioactive waste, and

Whereas, the Brandon Fire District #1 water system was recently elevated to Class II status, the first and currently the only water district in Vermont to have earned this level of classification, and

Whereas, the recent upgrading of Brandon Fire District #1's system to Class II is an especially noteworthy accomplishment for which Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee are to be commended, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee on the district's designation as a Class II water system, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter in Brandon and to the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee.

H.C.R. 257.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Kristen Kelliher on becoming the youngest female to scale the highest points in each of the lower 48 states

Offered by: Representatives Cheney of Norwich and Masland of Thetford

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, ascending on foot to the highest elevation in each of the lower 48 states is a challenging activity known as highpointing which enables the climber to view the American landscape from extraordinary and unusual vantage points, and

Whereas, until this past year, no female under the age of 18 had completed this emotionally rewarding feat, combining physical stamina and mental concentration, and

Whereas, the nine-year journey of Kristen Kelliher to ascend each of the nation's highest natural landmarks started during the summer between second and third grade when she ascended 7,000-foot Harney Peak in South Dakota, and

Whereas, by Halloween night in fifth grade, Kristen Kelliher had peak bagged, as the sport is also referred to, 11 of the 48 peaks, and by 2007, she had reached 42 of the 48 highpoints, and

Whereas, at that point, Kristen Kelliher decided to take a respite from her mountaineering adventures before attempting the most difficult destinations, including New York state's Mount Marcy in the Adirondacks, which she first attempted in the wintertime; Wyoming's Gannet Peak; Oregon's Mount Hood; and perhaps the most technically formidable of all the highpoints, Mount Rainier in Washington State, which also required two ascents, and

Whereas, having hiked to the top of 47 of our nation's states, Kristin Kelliher saved the best for her September 2011 finale, climbing the Long Trail from Route 108 past Taft Lodge and up the rocky chin to the summit of Mount Mansfield where an enthusiastic throng of 35 supporters, including her mother,

Mary Bender, who presented her then 17-year, four-month and 13-day-old daughter with a commemorative banner, and her stepfather, was present to applaud her grand accomplishment, and

Whereas, her long-sought goal was made possible with the encouraging support of her mother, who ascended 44 of the highpoints, and her stepfather, Bill Bender, who reached all the locations except Mount Rainier, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Kristen Kelliher on becoming the youngest female to scale the highest points in each of the lower 48 states, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Kristen Kelliher in Norwich.

H.C.R. 258.

House concurrent resolution recognizing the spirit of Vermont Strong online, in music, and as a commemorative license plate

Offered by: Representatives Courcelle of Rutland City, French of Shrewsbury, Acinapura of Brandon, Andrews of Rutland City, Aswad of Burlington, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Brennan of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Corcoran of Bennington, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Eckhardt of Chittenden, Fagan of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, Hooper of Montpelier, Howard of Cambridge, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lanpher of Vergennes, Malcolm of Pawlet, McNeil of Rutland Town, Peaslee of Guildhall, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City and Shaw of Pittsford

Offered by: Senators Carris, Doyle, Flory, Hartwell, Kitchel, Mazza, Mullin and Westman

Whereas, because much of the immediate information on Tropical Storm Irene's Vermont impact was digitally conveyed, Eric Mallette and Lyz Tomsuden decided to create a positive online presence in order to counteract the discouraging publicity about the storm's devastation, and

Whereas, Lyz Tomsuden, a graphic designer, created an image for use as a Facebook identification photo featuring a black Vermont map silhouetted against a green background, and the two of them developed the slogan "I Am Vermont Strong," and

Whereas, within 24 hours of the image's appearance on Facebook, a request was received for a T-shirt bearing the image, and they felt obliged to offer a shirt expressing solidarity with our state, and

Whereas, the T-shirt requests soon multiplied into the thousands, causing the packaging operation to be transferred to the rented stage of the Paramount Theatre and eventually to an organization specializing in this type of T-shirt distribution, and

Whereas, at the end of October 2011, \$60,000 in sales proceeds were donated to the Vermont Foodbank, and by December 2011, approximately 5,000 shirts had been sold in 18 countries, and the continuing proceeds will be given to the Vermont Foodbank and other organizations helping Vermonters in their times of need, and

Whereas, over 10,000 persons became fans of the "I Am Vermont Strong" Facebook page, and

Whereas, Proctor Marble Company, the holder of the Vermont trade name *Vermont Strong*, graciously did not object to the limited use of this name recognizing the important volunteer work that this new organization was performing for the residents of Vermont, and

Whereas, a group of third- and fourth-graders at Union Elementary School have written a song, *Vermont Strong*, with the lyrics "Life can be hard, When the weather turns wrong, But I am Vermont," and

Whereas, Governor Peter Shumlin proposed that a Vermont Strong commemorative license plate be created, and the General Assembly has followed through with the enactment of S.249 allocating \$18.00 of the proceeds from each plate sold to the Vermont Disaster Relief Fund and \$2.00 to the Vermont Foodbank, and motorists are authorized to display the license on the front of their vehicles, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the spirit of Vermont Strong online, in music, and as a commemorative license plate, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Eric Mallette, Lyz Tomsuden, the Union Elementary School in Montpelier, and June Wilson at the Proctor Marble Company.

H.C.R. 259.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock on its 75th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Clarkson of Woodstock and Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, one of the treasures of Windsor County is the intimate family-friendly Suicide Six Ski Area located in Woodstock, and

Whereas, in the middle 1930s, Wallace “Bunny” Bertram was looking to expand his rudimentary Gilbert’s Hill ski area and identified nearby Hill No. 6 as a possibility, and when a friend predicted it would be suicide to ski down the steep slope, Bertram knew the site was ideal, and

Whereas, Suicide Six opened on Christmas Day 1937, charging \$1.00 for a lift ticket and \$8.00 for a season’s pass, and

Whereas, the Fisk Trophy Race was premiered during the opening season and is now the nation’s oldest continual ski race, and

Whereas, also of historic vintage is the Woodstock Ski Runner organization, established and still located at Suicide Six, and which today is the oldest ski club in the eastern United States, and

Whereas, the original rope tow was replaced in 1954 with a Poma lift that “Pommy” Pomalski installed, and

Whereas, in 1961, Laurance S. and Mary Rockefeller purchased the ski area and continued its tradition of serving local families as well as guests at the Woodstock Inn which they also owned, and

Whereas, beginning in the middle 1970s, a number of improvements were introduced at Suicide Six, beginning with trail improvements in 1975 and new lifts, including Chair I, featuring Vermont’s first Borvig lift (1976); the J-Bar surface lift (1977); and Chair II, a Poma lift (1978), and

Whereas, other enhancements included the opening of a snowmaking system in 1977; the construction of a modern base lodge in 1978; and snow grooming machines with a hydraulic tiller that appeared during the 1982–1983 skiing season, and

Whereas, in 1982, Suicide Six hosted the first snurfing competition, an unusual event soon known far beyond Vermont as snowboarding, and

Whereas, Suicide Six is celebrating its 75th anniversary season with special events and remains a small and family-friendly ski resort that is now under the ownership of the Woodstock Foundation, a trust which Laurance and Mary Rockefeller established, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock on its 75th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Chuck Vanderstreet, director of recreation at Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock.

S.C.R. 34.

Senate concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative Alice Cook Bassett

Whereas, Alice McLaren Fisher was born in Lyndonville, graduated from Colby Junior College, and in 1944 married future University of Vermont (UVM) Vice President Clinton Dana Cook, and

Whereas, after her husband's death in 1969, Alice Cook returned to the classroom, earned a bachelor's degree at UVM, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in recognition of her academic excellence, and

Whereas, Alice Cook then served for a number of years as manager of the local Shakespeare Festival, and

Whereas, one of her passions was singing choral music, and as a member of the College Street Congregational Church Choir, she met fellow chorister and retired UVM history professor and archivist Tom Bassett, and their mutual love of canoeing, hiking, gardening, and, of course, music led to their marriage in 1979, and

Whereas, in 1982, with the combined encouragement of her father and her husband, Alice Cook Bassett sought a seat in the House of Representatives as a member from Burlington, and after campaigning enthusiastically and spending the modest sum of \$51, she was elected for the first of five consecutive terms, and

Whereas, her passionate interest in the environment gained her a seat on the House Committee on Natural Resources (later Energy and Natural Resources), and

Whereas, Representative Alice Cook Bassett was a conscientious legislator who also served on the Friends of the State House Board of Directors and as a member of the Petroleum Cleanup Fund Advisory Committee, and

Whereas, she took great pride in her role in the development of the Burlington waterfront into a treasured community resource, and

Whereas, outside the State House, Alice Cook Bassett was a leader in environmental protection, music, and international peace activities, and

Whereas, former Representative Alice Cook Bassett, after living a fulfilling and rewarding life, died on December 28, 2011 at the age of 86, and her

survivors include her five children, Dana, Allison, Polly, Tim, and Cindy, ten grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of its former colleague, Representative Alice Cook Bassett, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to members of her family.

S.C.R. 35.

Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Arthur Rush Hogan, Jr. of Burlington

Whereas, Arthur (Art) Hogan was an insightful regional planner whose career accomplishments improved the quality of life in Chittenden County, and

Whereas, a native of Burlington, he graduated from Burlington High School and St. Michael's College, and his college alma mater named him a Golden Knight in recognition of his half century of loyal membership in its alumni association, and

Whereas, for over three decades, Art Hogan served as the much-respected executive director of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, and

Whereas, his work as a regional planner was centered on promoting responsible growth and development, and

Whereas, Art Hogan recognized the importance of preserving Chittenden County's architectural and civic heritage, and he played an instrumental role in securing historic designation for many buildings and places, and

Whereas, he participated in the National Association of Regional Councils and the National Association of Regional Housing and Redevelopment Officials, and

Whereas, the Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation and the Planning Commission and Councils of New England honored him for his distinguished accomplishments, and his outstanding career was highlighted in 1999 when the New England Association of Regional Councils established the Art Hogan Jr. Regional Citizenship Award, and

Whereas, civic involvement was of great importance to Art Hogan and he belonged to the Knights of Columbus and Rotary, and was active in the Vermont Democratic Party, and

Whereas, Art Hogan was an involved parishioner of St. Mark's parish in Burlington, and

Whereas, his death at age 78, on December 10, 2011, followed the 2010 death of his wife, Helen, to whom he was married for 55 years, and

Whereas, the Hogan family includes his seven children, Helen, Kathleen, Arthur, Patrick, Michael, Brendan, and Bridget, and his 16 wonderful grandchildren, and

Whereas, the many persons who were associated with Art Hogan through his work, church, community activities, and family were all saddened by his recent death, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Arthur Rush Hogan Jr., *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of his family.

S.C.R. 36.

Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Rutland Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Mark Blucher.

Whereas, Mark Blucher graduated from the University of Michigan and continued his studies at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, which awarded him a master's degree in public administration and urban studies, and

Whereas, in 1970, he relocated to Vermont and worked in Arlington with his father, an internationally respected urban planner, and proceeded on to the Vermont Environmental Center in Ripton, and

Whereas, fulfilling his desire to broaden his professional horizons, in 1972 Mark Blucher accepted a job at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, commencing an association that would endure until 2012, and

Whereas, his supervisors admired Mark Blucher's dedication, initiative, and work product, and in 1983, he was promoted to the post of executive director, in which he performed in a distinguished and effective manner for the next 29 years, and

Whereas, during his nearly three decades at the commission's leadership pinnacle, Mark Blucher oversaw many successful projects including the development of the Rutland bus, the improvement of the services that the

Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging offers, and nurturing of the Rutland Area Farm and Food Link, and

Whereas, his many accolades included professional planner of the year awards from both the Vermont Planners Association and the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association, and

Whereas, among his numerous civic pursuits had been chairing the Council on Rural Development, and

Whereas, Mark Blucher continued his leadership role at the regional planning commission until shortly before his death in January 2012, and his survivors include his wife Hope, sons Tycen and Jordan, five grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of Rutland Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Mark Blucher, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Hope Blucher and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission.