

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House Concurrent  
Resolutions**

**of**

**April 12, 2012**

## **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 Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office.

### **Resolutions**

#### **H.C.R. 337.**

House concurrent resolution designating Wednesday, April 25, 2012, as National Walk@Lunch Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Frank of Underhill, Campion of Bennington, McCullough of Williston, Mrowicki of Putney and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, getting 30 minutes of moderate physical activity, such as a brisk walk, at least five times a week can result in significant health benefits, such as lowering the risk of developing or dying from cardiovascular disease, hypertension, or type 2 diabetes and improving the health of muscles, bones, and joints, and

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates the cost to treat illness and chronic disease caused by inactive lifestyles is nearly \$1,000.00 for every family in America, every year, and

Whereas, physical activity is vital to the well-being of all Americans, and National Walk@Lunch Day is an opportunity for Americans to carve time out of their busy work schedules to exercise and become healthier, and

Whereas, National Walk@Lunch Day is a workplace walking event that encourages employees to walk during their lunch break, making exercise a convenient and easy choice during the day, and

Whereas, many states will participate in National Walk@Lunch Day, improving the health of those residents on a step-by-step basis, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates Wednesday, April 25, 2012, as National Walk@Lunch Day and encourages Vermonters to walk at lunch, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to BlueCross BlueShield of Vermont in Berlin.

**H.C.R. 338.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Twinfield Union School 2012 Division IV championship boys' basketball team

Offered by: Representative Ancel of Calais

Whereas, the Division IV Twinfield Union School boys' basketball team was more than eager to attempt a repeat of its 2011 championship, and

Whereas, with only two losses by the conclusion of the regular season, the Trojans were the rightful and proud owners of the No. 1 playoff seed, and

Whereas, after eliminating all of its challengers for Division IV supremacy except third-seeded Danville, Twinfield met Danville in the championship game at the Barre Auditorium, and

Whereas, this was a game in which the Trojans always had the higher point total, but the security of the lead was often weak, forcing Twinfield to be continuously vigilant as it played, and

Whereas, the first quarter ended with a 12–9 lead for Twinfield, but by the midgame break, the Trojans had a slightly more comfortable 26–20 scoring margin, and

Whereas, the half-dozen point difference remained the gap as the third quarter concluded, and the Trojans headed to the sidelines ahead 38–32, and

Whereas, although on the lower end of a six-point deficit, Danville would not leave the contest quietly, and in the fourth quarter, the team's offense was effective, coming to within two points (40–38) of the aspiring repeat champions from Twinfield, and

Whereas, the Trojan point guard slammed the ball through the basket at the 4:38 mark of the fourth quarter, building the Twinfield lead to 44–38, and

Whereas, a Danville turnover was closely followed with a Twinfield shot that gave the Trojans an eight-point lead, and from that moment until the sounding of the game's final buzzer, Twinfield played confidently as it won the contest 61–52 and its second consecutive Division IV title, and

Whereas, Trojans Bradley Brickey, Miguel Gonzales, Avery Whitcomb, Merle Darling, Brandon Gibbs, Neil Weinreich, Tyson Robinson, Chad Copeland, David Codling, and Cody Brickey were all involved in this outstanding 22–2 season and in the team's clinching its second Division IV state championship title, and

Whereas, head coach Ira Wheeler, assistant coach Jeremy Cushing, and student manager Jack Whalen each played an important part in the team's great season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Twinfield Union School 2012 Division IV championship boys' basketball team, and be it further

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

**H.C.R. 339.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Randolph Union High School Division III girls' cross country championship team

Offered by: Representatives French of Randolph and Townsend of Randolph

Whereas, for the past three autumns, the girls of Randolph Union High School have displayed swiftness and perseverance on the cross country running courses of Vermont, and

Whereas, as the defending two-year consecutive Division III champions and with a roster featuring skilled runners, the Blue Wave was identified by other teams as a team with serious 2011 championship credentials, and

Whereas, the inability to practice as a team for a week following Tropical Storm Irene did not deter the Randolph girls from running on their own to remain set for the season, and

Whereas, the Blue Wave team was in top shape for the cross country season's culminating event, the state championship meet conducted on the challenging Thetford Academy course, and

Whereas, when the runners crossed the finish line, Randolph Union High School's Coach Ginny Richburg was ecstatic as members of her team finished second, third, fifth, tenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth in their division, and

Whereas, this triumphant team performance gave the Blue Wave 20 points, the lowest score (the objective in cross country running) among the girls' Division III teams and 33 points better than the nearest competitor, BFA-Fairfax, and

Whereas, Randolph's top finisher also earned a spot on the Vermont team in the New England championship meet, and

Whereas, Coach Ginny Richburg started the girls' cross country program at Randolph Union High School just six years ago, and

Whereas, when the Blue Wave 2011 Division III champions returned home to Randolph, a welcoming entourage of police and firefighters escorted the three-time state title-holders back to Randolph Union High School, and

Whereas, 2011 marks only the third time a Blue Wave team in any sport (girls' basketball in the 1980s and gymnastics in the 1990s) has compiled a three-consecutive-year championship victory string, and

Whereas, the entire Blue Wave cross country running team, including Brooke Angell, Isabelle Cone, Katie Giles, Risa Hoshi, Annie Hutchinson, Haddie Lary, Nina Listro, and Timnah Zimet, is to be congratulated on its great season, as is Coach Ginny Richburg, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2011 Randolph Union High School Division III girls' cross country championship team, and be it further

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

#### **H.C.R. 340.**

House concurrent resolution thanking the staff of the agency of natural resources, academic and scientific institutions, and community members who contributed to the development of the new Bedrock Geologic Map of Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Deen of Westminster and Klein of East Montpelier

Offered by: Senator Lyons

Whereas, the publication of the new Bedrock Geologic Map of Vermont incorporates 30 years of new approaches to the science of geologic mapping and the technologies that support it, and

Whereas, the 2011 publication of this invaluable map occurred on the sesquicentennial anniversary of the first Vermont geologic map's issuance in 1861 and 50 years after the 1961 Centennial Geologic Map of Vermont was released, and

Whereas, this new map is the first Vermont state map published to include interpretations of geologic history based on the emergence of plate tectonic theory in the 1960s, and

Whereas, through its incorporation of a fundamental data layer, the map is a showpiece of the present-day understanding of Vermont's geology, and

Whereas, the map provides a primary geological science base to be used for years to come that will help us address Vermont's environmental issues, and

Whereas, protection of our state's natural resources will be easier when working on matters related to groundwater protection, energy development and use, hazardous waste, infrastructure development, and environmental protection, and

Whereas, this map's development and publication is an excellent example of cooperation between the state of Vermont, the federal government, and the academic and scientific community represented by the Vermont geological survey, the agency of natural resources, the United States Geological Survey, and the primary academic partner, the University of Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly thanks the staff of the agency of natural resources, academic and scientific institutions, and community members who contributed to the development of the new Bedrock Geologic Map of Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Secretary of Natural Resources Deborah Markowitz.

#### **H.C.R. 341.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers on winning the 2012 boys' indoor state track and field championship

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

Offered by: Senators Benning and Kitchel

Whereas, indoor track and field competition challenges athletes' skills in different categories, including shot put throwing, high jumping, and individual and relay running at several designated distances, and

Whereas, the months of intensive training and multiple competitions culminate in the state championship, which in 2012 was held at Norwich University, and

Whereas, this season's boys' competition will be especially memorable for the Hilltoppers of St. Johnsbury Academy, who proved they were focused athletes who maximized their skills on the path to victory, and

Whereas, young men from St. Johnsbury repeatedly succeeded on the running course as a team member won the 300-, 600-, and 1,000-meter dashes in impressive times, and

Whereas, these outstanding performances contributed to the Hilltoppers being tied for first place at 110 ten points as they entered the decisive event, the 4×400 relay, and

Whereas, the proven runners from St. Johnsbury Academy displayed equally impressive speed in a relay as when they ran as individual competitors, and

Whereas, when the fourth relay runner had finished his leg, the Hilltoppers had won both the event and the 2012 boys' indoor state track and field championship, and

Whereas, this skilled team of great athletes during the entire 2011–2012 season included Ben Bunnell, Shoshun Durham, James Fitzhugh, Brian Fubler, Skylar Lobdell, Kory Powers, Cyrus Ready-Campbell, Mohabo Boughton, Sully Kiley, Brandon Legendre, Dage Minors, Marquis Burgess, Andrew Mazzonna, Jake Billings, and Benjamin Torres-Wofford as well as junior varsity participants Nathan Perry and Scott Battison, and

Whereas, head coach Chip Langmaid and assistant coaches Kyle Powers and Kevin Cronin were key to the Hilltoppers' success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers on winning the 2012 boys' indoor state track and field championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.

**H.C.R. 342.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Xiangru Chen on winning a 2012 Siemens Award for excellence in science and mathematics

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

Offered by: Senators Benning and Kitchel

Whereas, the College Board administers Advance Placement (AP) Exams for high school students on many subjects, including: biology, calculus, chemistry, computer science, environmental science, physics, electricity and magnetism, mechanics, and statistics, and

Whereas, the Siemens Foundation recognizes students, teachers, and schools that have demonstrated excellence in association with AP Exams in mathematics and science, and

Whereas, the male and female student in each state, who have earned the most top scores of 5 in AP Exams in mathematics or science, are honored as Siemens Award winners and presented \$2,000.00 college scholarships, and

Whereas, in 2012, Xiangru Chen, a senior at St. Johnsbury Academy, who to date has taken eight AP Exams, is the female Vermont recipient of this prestigious honor, and

Whereas, her interest in science and mathematics started at a young age when she began her studies of these subjects, and

Whereas, Xiangru Chen's mathematical talents were on display through her participation in the National Math Competition and the American Regions Mathematics League, and

Whereas, she is an accomplished artist who has placed in the top three of a drawing competition in China, and

Whereas, aside from her studies, Xiangru Chen enjoys playing soccer and ultimate Frisbee, and

Whereas, volunteering on various projects is a matter of personal importance, and

Whereas, Xiangru Chen aspires to a career in architecture, and

Whereas, winning the Siemens Award is a great tribute to her commitment to academic excellence, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Xiangru Chen on winning a 2012 Siemens Award for excellence in science and mathematics, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Xiangru Chen at St. Johnsbury Academy.

### **H.C.R. 343.**

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program

Offered by: Representatives Brennan of Colchester, Atkins of Winooski, Batchelor of Derby, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Bouchard of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Corcoran of Bennington, Courcelle of



Rutland City, Deen of Westminster, Degree of St. Albans City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donaghy of Poultney, Donahue of Northfield, Edwards of Brattleboro, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Hooper of Montpelier, Koch of Barre Town, Komline of Dorset, Krebs of South Hero, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Derby, Martin of Wolcott, McAllister of Highgate, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town, Munger of South Burlington, Myers of Essex, Peaslee of Guildhall, Perley of Enosburgh, Reis of St. Johnsbury, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Shaw of Pittsford, Turner of Milton, Waite-Simpson of Essex and Webb of Shelburne

Offered by: Senator Westman

Whereas, more than a century ago, hunters, anglers, and trappers were among the first conservationists who realized America's natural resources were in peril, and they acted on their own initiative to support laws that developed a sound legal system of overseeing wildlife management, including licensing fees, and when later perceived as required, they supported additional revenue sources such as excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery, fishing, and hunting equipment, and

Whereas, in 1937, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act was enacted and established the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSRP), and other federal laws have subsequently expanded its application and scope, and

Whereas, the manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, hunting, fishing, and boating equipment have collected excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, manufactured fishing tackle, electric trolling motors, marine electronics, and motorboat fuel and distributed these funds to the states through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

Whereas, since 1939, the total contribution of the WSRP to state fish and wildlife agencies has exceeded \$13 billion, more than any other single conservation effort in American history, and

Whereas, this cooperative partnership between industry, hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters, recreational shooters, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and state natural resource agencies has resulted in the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Director Daniel Ashe of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Commissioner Patrick Berry of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, Manager Brent Miller of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Northeastern States, President Clint Gray of the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

**H.C.R. 344.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Oxbow Union High School athletes A. J. Gillis and William Heathman on their victories at the 2012 state indoor track and field championship

Offered by: Representatives Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Conquest of Newbury, Christie of Hartford, Davis of Washington and Winters of Williamstown

Whereas, the 2012 state track and field championship was held at Norwich University, and among the participating schools was Oxbow Union High School, and

Whereas, Oxbow's A. J. Gillis had originally focused on baseball and football until his football coach suggested that he broaden his athletic activities, and

Whereas, the young athlete accepted this wise counsel and decided to train for interscholastic shot put competition, which requires a strong throwing arm and excellent concentration, and

Whereas, as a junior, he brought home the Division III outdoor shot put title, and

Whereas, having achieved his personal best result at the 2012 indoor Essex Invitational, he was confident that his performance at the 2012 state championship would be equally successful, and

Whereas, his enthusiasm and self-confidence proved an accurate barometer, as he threw the shot put a distance of 45 feet and seven inches to clinch the boys' state crown, and

Whereas, another outstanding Oxbow athlete was sprinter William Heathman, and

Whereas, participating in sprinting events, often referred to as dashes, requires him to focus intensely on his running from the second a race starts, and

Whereas, William Heathman trained with the recognition that every second is important, and his solid training and conditioning were rewarded when he won the boys' 55-meter dash at the state championship with a winning time of 6.69 seconds, and

Whereas, the great coaches at Oxbow Union High School, including Angela Christie, Amy Cook, Jordan Kidder, and Emily Willems, each deserve credit for their work with young athletes, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Oxbow Union High School athletes A. J. Gillis and William Heathman on their victories at the 2012 state indoor track and field championship meet, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to A. J. Gillis and William Heathman at Oxbow Union High School.

#### **H.C.R. 345.**

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 20th anniversary of the enactment of Act 135, Vermont's sexual orientation antidiscrimination law, and the vital role played in its passage by Representative Ron Squires, Vermont's first openly gay state legislator

Offered by: Representatives Campion of Bennington, Lippert of Hinesburg, Lorber of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Trieber of Rockingham and Wizowaty of Burlington

Whereas, prior to 1992, gay and lesbian Vermonters were left with no legal recourse if the cause of any discrimination was based on their sexual orientation, and

Whereas, the drive to outlaw discrimination in Vermont based on sexual orientation was not easily accomplished, and it required that gay and lesbian people from all across Vermont publicly risked "coming out" in order to share the stories of their personal lives, and

Whereas, inspired by the courage and determination of gay and lesbian Vermonters and their families and friends, in 1986, the general assembly embarked on its own brave and courageous journey to enact legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation, and

Whereas, the pivotal days in the house of representatives for S.131, "An act relating to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation," broadly known as

the Vermont gay rights' bill, were Friday, April 10, 1992, when the bill was ordered to be read a third time on a vote of 71–58, and the following Monday, April 13, when the house narrowly passed the legislation 73–67, and

Whereas, the leadership of Representative Ron Squires, the first openly gay member of the Vermont general assembly, was essential, and during deliberations on Friday, April 10, he spoke of the personal discrimination he had sustained, explaining that S.131 was “not about special privileges or rights for one class of people. It’s about giving gay men and lesbians in this state the same rights and privileges that the rest of you enjoy,” and

Whereas, the enactment of S.131 as Act No. 135 of 1992 was an historic moment in our state, and Vermont was one of the first half-dozen states to take this bold step, and even in 2012, fewer than two dozen states have adopted this basic human rights law, and

Whereas, on the 20th anniversary of Act No. 135, it is fitting to remember the struggle that preceded its enactment and to mourn the loss of Rep. Ron Squires from HIV/AIDS complications on January 8, 1993, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That on this 17th annual LGBTQ Day at the Statehouse, the General Assembly celebrates the 20th anniversary of the enactment of Act 135, Vermont’s sexual orientation antidiscrimination law, and the vital role that Representative Ron Squires, Vermont’s first openly gay legislator, played in its passage, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to RU12? Community Center, Outright Vermont, Vermont CARES, the AIDS Project of Southern Vermont, Vermont Freedom to Marry, Truth Wins Out, and to Shirley Squires, mother of former Rep. Ron Squires, in Guilford.

**H.C.R. 346.**

House concurrent resolution welcoming the visiting military delegation from Macedonia and commemorating the continuing partnership between the state of Vermont and Macedonia

Offered by: Representatives Head of South Burlington, Andrews of Rutland City, Bouchard of Colchester, Moran of Wardsboro, O’Sullivan of Burlington, Savage of Swanton, Smith of New Haven and Stevens of Waterbury

Whereas, in 1993, the U.S. Department of the Army created the invaluable National Guard State Partnership Program to enable foreign countries to partner with segments of the National Guard to foster long-term ties, and

Whereas, in March 1995, following the signing of the memorandum of understanding in 1994, a Vermont State Partnership Program was established with the Republic of Macedonia, and to date, Macedonia and Vermont have participated in more than 200 joint activities, and

Whereas, more than 4,000 members of the Ministry of Defense and armed forces of Macedonia have studied the military procedures of the U.S. Armed Forces, and

Whereas, the joint activities of the Vermont–Macedonia state partnership have also benefited the civilian sector in Macedonia, and

Whereas, the government of Macedonia participates in regional cooperation initiatives and provides assistance to neighboring countries, and

Whereas, during the Kosovo crisis of 1999, territory in Macedonia served as a staging area and main corridor for logistical support to the NATO Kosovo Force (commonly referred to as “KFOR”), and since 2006, the government of Macedonia has led the KFOR Coordination Centre for logistical support in Skopje, the Macedonian capital, and

Whereas, until 2008, the government of Macedonia deployed troops to Iraq under the leadership of the government of the United States, and since April 2010, troops from Macedonia have been deployed to Afghanistan and have been embedded in the 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Vermont National Guard, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly welcomes Minister of Defence of the Republic of Macedonia, His Excellency Fatmir Besimi, and State Secretary, Ministry of Defense Petar Esmerov, and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly recognizes the cooperation between the state of Vermont and the Republic of Macedonia for the past 17 years, and the commitment of Macedonia to participate with the state of Vermont to advance international peace, democracy, and mutual understanding, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Minister of Defence of the Republic of Macedonia, His Excellency Fatmir Besimi, to Director of the General Staff, Colonel Krume Velcov, and to Vermont Adjutant General Major General Michael Dubie.

**H.C.R. 347.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the BFA-St. Albans Bobwhites 2012 Division I championship boys’ ice hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Degree of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Howrigan of Fairfield and Branagan of Georgia

Whereas, as the season opened, the BFA-St. Albans Bobwhites boys' ice hockey team could boast of 15 state championships but none since 2005, and

Whereas, the BFA hockey spirit, in the words of former captain Tom Waltz, reflects "sense of belonging to the past at BFA and a sense of responsibility to the present and the future," and the Bobwhites sought to make the 2011–2012 season one of renewal, and

Whereas, the talented third-seeded Bobwhites skated their way to the Division I title contest at the University of Vermont's Gutterson Fieldhouse, where they faced the fifth-seeded Colchester Lakers, and

Whereas, with 3:33 remaining in the first period, the Bobwhites scored the game's first goal, but the Lakers tied the score 35 seconds before the first period's conclusion, and

Whereas, at 4:23 into the second period, the Bobwhites took advantage of a power play in their favor to score the tie-breaking goal, and three minutes later, BFA-St. Albans scored again, creating a wider 3–1 margin of comfort, and

Whereas, despite repeated Laker offensive surges, including a play at the end of the second period that resulted in the puck hitting the Bobwhite goalie and a third-period shot on the net that ended with the Colchester player slapping his own rebound, the Bobwhites prevailed by relying in part on their goalie's alertness and 20 saves, and

Whereas, when the game was over, the boys from BFA-St. Albans, including 14 seniors, were 3–1 game winners and the ecstatic Division I champions, and

Whereas, Bobwhites Andre Morin, Nick Berno, Aaron Picard, Jack Vallee, Matt Palmer, Zach Devold, Owen Dean, Connor Roberts, Cody Robtoy, John Pion, Sean Rocheleau, Ben Boomhover, Brady Walsh, Mike Schreiner, Taylor Raftery, Logan Lamothe, Brandon Streeter, Ian Hengemuhle, Mike Martel, Carl Laroe, Connor Walsh, George Salg, Peter Dukas, Jake Cioffi, and Chris Bauer all played to win, and the support of head coach Toby Ducolon, assistant coaches Tom McDonald, Rick Schreiner, Jon Haynes, and Jon Malboeuf, and team managers Arthur Saffo, Caleb Rudden, and Dylan Richard was of enormous assistance along the path to victory, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the BFA-St. Albans Bobwhites 2012 Division I championship boys' ice hockey team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to BFA-St. Albans.

**H.C.R. 348.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the fifth annual Jr. Iron Chef VT cooking competition

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Shoreham, Aswad of Burlington, Batchelor of Derby, Branagan of Georgia, Buxton of Tunbridge, Donovan of Burlington, Emmons of Springfield, Gilbert of Fairfax, Head of South Burlington, Hubert of Milton, Kilmartin of Newport City, Krowinski of Burlington, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Derby, Lorber of Burlington, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Martin of Springfield, McCullough of Williston, Moran of Wardsboro, Munger of South Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pearson of Burlington, Peltz of Woodbury, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Taylor of Barre City, Turner of Milton, Wizowaty of Burlington, Wright of Burlington and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Illuzzi, Kittell and Snelling

Whereas, the Burlington School Food Project, Vermont FEED (Vermont Food Education Everyday—a project of Food Works at Two Rivers Center), the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont, and Shelburne Farms host the Jr. Iron Chef VT competition with financial support from many corporate sponsors and the agency of agriculture, food and markets, and

Whereas, the fifth annual Jr. Iron Chef VT competition was an exciting opportunity for middle and high school students to adjourn to the kitchen and with limited time allotted, prepare unusual dishes using affordable and local farm fresh ingredients, and

Whereas, on Saturday, March 24, 2012, 1,200 spectators gathered at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex to cheer on the 300 middle and high school chefs as they competed to create culinary delights, and

Whereas, there were three prizes awarded in separate morning and afternoon heats to middle and high school teams, and

Whereas, the Lively Local Award (the recipe best highlighting Vermont foods) was presented to the middle school winners, the Barre City Bulldogs #1 for kale pesto and root vegetable pizza and the Charlotte Chefs for sweet potato curry with vegetable pancake dippers; and to the high school winners, the Rebel Chefs of South Burlington for BBQ faux Joe sliders with red cabbage–celeriac slaw and crispy kale chips and BFA-Fairfax for pretty in pink pancakes, and

Whereas, the Simple Spoon Award (recipes that use easy and convenient preparations with a delicious result) was awarded to middle school entrants Milton Middle School for Vermont falafel sliders with apple slaw and Riverside Vermonsters of Springfield snack wrap with apple-beet salad; and to the high school honorees in this category, Royal Chefs of South Royalton for confetti corn bread with maple sour cream and Rock Point School FDA of Burlington for Vermont veggie focaccia sandwich, and

Whereas, the Crowd Pleasing Award (recipes that incorporate great colors, textures, and taste for a true crowd pleaser) was bestowed on middle school chefs from the Twin Valley Dipsters of Whitingham for double dip dumplings and the North Country Union Sizzling Falcons of Derby for vegetable bakeover dish; and to the high school victors, Jean Garvin School of Williston for gnocchi chez Garvin and Twin Valley Zeman's Zing Zang of Wilmington for Asian vegetable crepes, and

Whereas, today, April 13, 2012, the winning teams are gathered at the state house and are preparing samples of their edible creations, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winning teams of the fifth annual Jr. Iron Chef VT cooking competition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the winning teams and to Libby McDonald.

**H.C.R. 349.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Christopher Gish on winning the 2012 Vermont Geographic Bee

Offered by: Representatives Cheney of Norwich and Masland of Thetford

Whereas, geographic knowledge is an important asset in our increasingly interconnected world, and comprehensive mastery of traditional cartographic documentation, namely paper maps and atlases, remains the foundation of understanding the geographic composition of planet earth, and

Whereas, Christopher Gish, an eighth grade student at Sharon Academy is an avid purveyor of paper maps, a hobby he acquired from hiking the Long Trail with his father, and

Whereas, the 2012 Vermont Geographic Bee took place on Friday, March 30 at Middlebury College where 80 students gathered to be quizzed on the precise points on the globe where both natural creations and political subdivisions are situated, and



Whereas, Heather Campbell, the coordinator for the Vermont Geographic Bee, succinctly explained the event's goal as encouraging students to study geography to give them "a better sense of where they are in the world," and

Whereas, among the exotic places the students were asked to identify were crater lakes in El Salvador, rivers in Central Africa, and volcanoes in the Philippines, and

Whereas, as with every academic contest, one question must finally prove decisive in determining a winner, and at the 2012 Vermont Geographic Bee, identifying the Strait of Hormuz, "that connects the Gulf of Oman with the Persian Gulf" proved to be the ultimate inquiry, and

Whereas, when Christopher Gish correctly described the geographic coordinates of this strategically important Middle Eastern waterway, he was declared the winner of the 2012 Vermont Geographic Bee and was awarded a \$100.00 cash prize, a DVD set of *National Geographic*, and a free trip to Washington D.C. where he will represent Vermont at the National Geographic Bee, and

Whereas, the secret to his winning, aside from solid preparation, was to stay calm throughout each round of questioning, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Christopher Gish on winning the 2012 Vermont Geographic Bee and wishes him good luck at the National Geographic Bee, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Christopher Gish in Sharon.

**H.C.R. 350.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Patricia Howrigan Reynolds on being named the 2012 Vermont Mother of the Year

Offered by: Representatives Howrigan of Fairfield, Branagan of Georgia, Keenan of St. Albans City, Degree of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Gilbert of Fairfax, Perley of Enosburgh and Reis of St. Johnsbury

Whereas, the loving care and guidance of a devoted mother can influence and inspire her children throughout their lives, and

Whereas, in celebration of motherhood, the Vermont chapter of American Mothers, Inc. annually honors one woman as the Vermont Mother of the Year, and

Whereas, the Ladies of St. Patrick's Parish in Fairfield recommended Patricia Howrigan Reynolds of St. Albans as its choice for Vermont State Mother of 2012, and

Whereas, Patricia Howrigan was the fourth of 12 children growing up on the Howrigan family farm in Fairfield, and from an early age, she assumed important family responsibilities, and

Whereas, after graduating from the University of Vermont and teaching home economics for four years, Patricia Howrigan left the classroom to become a full-time mother as her husband, Marc J. Reynolds, and she became the parents of four children, Aaron, Brian, David, and Sarah, and

Whereas, Patricia Howrigan Reynolds has written that "children are God's greatest gift," that "each child is unique with his or her own personality and talents," and that "Being a mother takes patience, love and respect for others," and

Whereas, she extended her parenting skills into the community, teaching religious and social skills classes, serving as a 4-H and Cub Scout leader, and as a parent volunteer in different settings, and

Whereas, Patricia Howrigan Reynolds made certain her children valued their family heritage by spending extensive time with their grandparents, and

Whereas, all her children praised their mother in a supporting statement endorsing her as a candidate for the Vermont State mother of 2012, and

Whereas, during the 18 years of her second teaching career from 1989–2007, and in 2012 as a grandmother of nine, Patricia Howrigan Reynolds has brought her skills as a parent, and especially as a mother, to the forefront, and

Whereas, the Vermont chapter of American Mothers, Inc. has most wisely selected Patricia Howrigan Reynolds as the 2012 Vermont Mother of the Year, who follows in the footsteps of her mother, Neva Larocque Howrigan, who was similarly honored in 1985, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Patricia Howrigan Reynolds on being named the Vermont State Mother of 2012, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Patricia Howrigan Reynolds in St. Albans.

**H.C.R. 351.**

House concurrent resolution in memory of Vermont archivist, historian, and librarian Esther Munroe Swift

Offered by: Representatives Taylor of Barre City, Buxton of Tunbridge, Clarkson of Woodstock, Devereux of Mount Holly, Hooper of Montpelier, Jerman of Essex, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lewis of Berlin, Marek of Newfane, Sharpe of Bristol and Stevens of Shoreham

Offered by: Senators Campbell, Cummings, Doyle, McCormack, Nitka and Pollina

Whereas, few persons explored and wrote of the heritage of our state with greater depth and knowledge than Esther Swift of South Royalton, and

Whereas, her remarkable career which took her around the world was undeniably anchored in the Green Mountain State, as she was a proud sixth-generation Vermonter, and

Whereas, after growing up in Montpelier, Esther Swift entered the University of Vermont (UVM) and then proceed to earn degrees from Columbia University, the University of Utah, and ultimately a doctorate from the University of Chicago, and

Whereas, in the 1940s, Esther Swift became the regional librarian for the Free Public Library Commission of Vermont, and

Whereas, for the United Nations, she developed libraries in remote corners of the world, and independently helped a number of international students attend college in the United States, and

Whereas, after her United Nations tenure, Esther Swift joined the staff of the Rockefeller Foundation before returning home to Vermont, and

Whereas, for nearly 20 years, Esther Swift served as the superb librarian and archivist at the Billings Farm and Museum, curating the organization's Vermontonia collection and working with visiting researchers, and

Whereas, Esther Swift contributed to the literature of Vermont history, and especially noteworthy is her *Vermont Place-Names: Footprints of History*, recognized by Vermont historians as a truly seminal reference work, and

Whereas, the book's genesis was Esther Swift's curiosity about how Vermont's place-names had evolved, and with the assistance of her son, she traveled the state for a dozen years, gathering material, initially with no intent of publishing a book until a publisher convinced her of the work's importance, and the first printing, of which four have since followed, sold out before the presses had even begun to roll, and

Whereas, a resident for many years of South Royalton, she owned and meticulously restored the house owned by General Elias Stevens, the hero of the Royalton Raid of 1780, and

Whereas, as a lister in South Royalton, Esther Swift made a contemporary contribution to Vermont municipal administration, designing the first computer program for listers, and

Whereas, in recognition of her enduring contribution to Vermont historical scholarship, in 2007, the Center for Research on Vermont most fittingly presented her with its Lifetime Achievement Award, and into in her 80s, Esther Swift continued her significant role in Vermont's historic preservation through her archiving of the UVM Landscape Change website, and

Whereas, after an extraordinarily productive life of cataloguing our state's history, and spreading the world of knowledge and the wonders of libraries to readers around the world, Esther Swift died peacefully on March 10 in her South Royalton home at the age of 89, and her survivors include her son, Brian, and daughter-in-law, Bonnie, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, now therefore be it:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends sincere condolences to the family of Esther Munroe Swift in appreciation for her contribution to our state's heritage, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brian Swift in Berlin.

#### **H.C.R. 352.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Louis D. Lertola of South Burlington for his outstanding work in securing increased local property tax exemptions for disabled veterans

Offered by: Representatives Townsend of Randolph, Acinapura of Brandon, Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Consejo of Sheldon, Courcelle of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, French of Randolph, Gilbert of Fairfax, Head of South Burlington, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Krebs of South Hero, Lewis of Derby, Macaig of Williston, Martin of Wolcott, McCullough of Williston, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Mrowicki of Putney, Munger of South Burlington, O'Brien of Richmond, Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburgh, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Savage of Swanton, Shand of Weathersfield, Shaw of Pittsford, Stevens of Waterbury, Sweaney of Windsor, Till of Jericho, Trieber of Rockingham, Webb of Shelburne, Winters of Williamstown and Wizowaty of Burlington

Whereas, Louis Lertola dedicated four decades (1954–1994) to serving his country in the United States military, including 34 years in the Vermont Army National Guard starting in 1960, and

Whereas, he was appointed as state command sergeant major in the Vermont National Guard, and he was repeatedly honored during his military career, and

Whereas, in 2008, Louis Lertola began a personal campaign to convince Vermont cities and towns to raise their maximum local property tax exemption for veterans who are at least 50 percent disabled from \$10,000 or \$20,000 to the maximum \$40,000 as the legislature had authorized in 32 V.S.A. § 3802(11)(C), and

Whereas, this statute allows but does not require each municipality to raise this exemption up to the \$40,000 threshold, and

Whereas, undaunted by the enormity of this challenge, Louis Lertola initiated a tour of the state that in the past four years has taken him to 74 towns, while he has driven approximately 5,000 miles, and

Whereas, community visits were hardly his sole means of persuasion, as he has written about 700 letters to the towns he did not travel to as well as to American Legion and VFW posts and the Disabled American Veterans, and

Whereas, in 2009, 59 towns agreed to raise the exemption level to the maximum amount followed by 44 in 2010, 33 in 2011, and 15 in 2012, and

Whereas, including the towns that had already raised the disabled veteran's property tax exemption to \$40,000 before he started his effort, 219 of 246 towns with a qualifying veteran have now made the change, and 2,147 of the potentially eligible 2,256 veterans (95.2%) now reside in complying towns, and

Whereas, in association with the American Legion and the VFW, Louis Lertola is determined to raise the percentage of towns with the maximum exemption rate to 100 percent, and

Whereas, in 2010, in recognition of his work to enable disabled veterans to remain homeowners, Louis Lertola was presented the Governor's Award for Outstanding Community Service, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Louis D. Lertola of South Burlington for his outstanding work in securing increased local property tax exemptions for disabled veterans, and be it further

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