

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

SENATE CALENDAR

**Text of Senate and House
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

Friday, January 21, 2011

CONSENT CALENDAR

Concurrent Resolutions for Notice under Joint Rule 16

The following joint Senate 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.

S.C.R. 2.

By Senators Brock and Kittell,

By Representative Perley of Enosburgh,

S.C.R. 2. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Hildred Tatro for her exemplary role as co-librarian at the Enosburgh Public Library.

Whereas, the presence of a knowledgeable and friendly librarian is essential to the effective functionality of any public library, and

Whereas, devoting decades of dedication to a worthy community institution, such as the Enosburgh Public Library, is especially commendable, and

Whereas, one of the most admired and cherished individuals in the town of Enosburgh is Hildred Tatro, who, at the age of 90, has faithfully served as the co-librarian at the Enosburgh Public Library for 36 years, and

Whereas, patrons regularly rely on Hildred Tatro to assist in answering a reference question or finding the latest novel by their favorite author, and

Whereas, her library colleagues greatly enjoy working with her and value the experience and expertise she has gained during her long tenure, and

Whereas, Hildred Tatro rarely misses work due to illness and never takes all of her allotted vacation days, and

Whereas, outside the library, Hildred Tatro is busily creative, sewing beautiful quilts, making three-storied dollhouses, knitting sweaters, and cooking great meals, and

Whereas, Hildred Tatro is a truly talented individual who continues to live on her own and recently started driving a new Impala, and

Whereas, this remarkable Vermonter, who has contributed so much to the both the Enosburgh Public Library's vitality and to the life of her community, merits special legislative praise and recognition in her 90th year, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Hildred Tatro for her exemplary role as co-librarian at the Enosburgh Public Library, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Hildred Tatro in Enosburgh.

H.C.R. 20.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Frederick Martin Wilkens on his 90th birthday

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington and Wizowaty of Burlington

Whereas, Frederick Martin (Marty) Wilkens was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on January 12, 1921, and

Whereas, after graduating from Jamaica High School in Queens, New York, where he was senior class president, Marty Wilkens attended nearby Queens College, and

Whereas, leaving college after two years to enter military service in the midst of World War II, Marty Wilkens flew as a United States Army Air Corps reconnaissance pilot in the South Pacific, and

Whereas, his military service delayed him from meeting his daughter, Sandra, until she was three years old, and

Whereas, following his military service, Marty Wilkens began a career in retail merchandising, working for department stores that, in 1970, brought him to Burlington where he was employed at Magram's until his retirement in 1984, and

Whereas, Marty Wilkens became a popular resident of personality on Burlington's Spruce Street, and WCAX-TV recognized him for the beauty and creativity of his home gardens that brightly enlivened his neighborhood, a recognition award that originated with a nomination from his neighbors, and

Whereas, a strong concern for the civic well-being of his community has prompted Marty Wilkens to write many letters to the editor of the *Burlington Free Press*, and

Whereas, active and concerned citizens such as Marty Wilkens serve as the foundation upon which democracy is based and enable our local neighborhoods to flourish as desirable places in which to live, and

Whereas, Marty Wilkens, who was married for many years to his late wife, Ann, the love of his life, has three children, Sandra, Peter, and Christopher, six

grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, and is celebrating his 90th birthday on January 12, 2011, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Frederick Martin Wilkens on his 90th birthday, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Frederick Martin Wilkens in Burlington.

H.C.R. 21.

House concurrent resolution honoring Grafton volunteer firefighter Richard Thompson and sending best wishes for recovery to Beatrice Fisher who he gallantly rescued from her burning home

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Obuchowski of Rockingham

Whereas, early in the evening of Friday, December 10, 2010, the Grafton Volunteer Fire Department notified its members that the 150-year-old Fisher homestead, the home of Beatrice Fisher, was engulfed in flames, and

Whereas, Richard Thompson, who has only served with the department for approximately one year, opted to bypass the fire station and travel directly to the scene of the blaze which was close to his home, and

Whereas, when he arrived with not a single piece of firefighting or rescue equipment, and prior to his colleagues' presence on the scene, Beatrice Fisher's granddaughter-in-law was desperately shouting to her relative trapped in the house, and

Whereas, entering a burning structure bereft of rescue equipment is absolutely contrary to the precepts and safety rules of firefighting, and

Whereas, specific circumstances arise when a human life is in immediate jeopardy and diverting from the firefighter's credo may be unwise, and

Whereas, Richard Thompson relied on his human instinct and kicked the front door open in a bold effort to save Beatrice Fisher's life, and

Whereas, despite having ignored the firefighting rules, Richard Thompson remembered the training dictum to stay low inside a burning house as he dropped to his knees and employed a firefighter's right-hand sweep in search of the victim, ultimately reaching out for her when it became imperative to evacuate at once, and

Whereas, his extraordinary rescue prompted Grafton Fire Chief Eric Stevens to describe the firefighter as a hero, and

Whereas, Beatrice Fisher is recuperating amazingly well, and her family and she will be forever grateful to Richard Thompson for his bravery, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Grafton volunteer firefighter Richard Thompson and sends best wishes for recovery to Beatrice Fisher who he gallantly rescued from her burning home, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Richard Thompson, Beatrice Fisher, and the Grafton Volunteer Fire Department.

H.C.R. 22.

House concurrent resolution honoring Roland Dion for his dedicated public and community service in the city of Winooski

Offered by: Representatives Bissonnette of Winooski and Atkins of Winooski

Whereas, for nearly four decades, the city of Winooski and local community organizations have greatly benefited from the dedicated work and effective leadership of Roland Dion, and

Whereas, he began his municipal government career in 1972 as a housing inspector, ascertaining if homes met minimum required health and safety standards, and

Whereas, following his work as a housing inspector, Roland Dion accepted concurrent appointments as Winooski's information coordinator and citizen participation coordinator for the Winooski office of the federal Model Cities Program while also serving as the labor standard enforcement officer, and

Whereas, the next step in his municipal career was as the director of the Winooski Senior Center where he developed innovative programs that assisted seniors in their daily lives, such as an Alzheimer's support group, home meal delivery, and tax assistance, as well as pleasurable activities, including bowling opportunities, bus trips, and the center's annual Christmas Party, and

Whereas, aside from his full-time municipal posts, Roland Dion served as a justice of the peace which gave him a seat on the Winooski Board of Civil Authority, and

Whereas, Roland Dion represented the city of Winooski at the Visiting Nursing Association, and he worked closely with the court diversion program at its start, and

Whereas, the viability of the Winooski Historical Society as a repository of the city's historic documents was assured in large measure through his volunteer work assisting in the reorganization of the society, and

Whereas, his religious faith and related youth education activities are a central part of Roland Dion's life, and he has served as the CCD Coordinator at both St. Francis Xavier and St. Stephens Church, and

Whereas, after an admirable career as a Winooski city employee, to whom the city's 1992 annual report was dedicated, and local volunteer, Roland Dion who retired in December 2010 merits commendation for his contributions to Winooski's well-being, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Roland Dion for his dedicated public and community service in the city of Winooski, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Roland Dion in Winooski.

H.C.R. 23.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the town of Brandon on its 250th anniversary

Offered by: Representative Acinapura of Brandon

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, one of the oldest municipalities in Rutland County is the New Hampshire Grant town of Brandon that was established on November 3, 1761, when Governor Benning Wentworth issued a charter for a new town of "About Six Miles square . . . Beginning at the North Westerly Corner of Pittsford," and

Whereas, this new community was originally called Neshobe (meaning a water-associated place in several Native American languages) after the Neshoba section of Littleton, Massachusetts, the birthplace of Josiah Powers, the first-named grantee on the charter, and

Whereas, years passed before the first settlers arrived in 1772, and on October 7, 1784, the town of Neshobe conducted an organizational town meeting, and for unknown reasons, requested the Vermont General Assembly to change the name of the town to Brandon, and

Whereas, on October 20, 1784, almost exactly 23 years after the New Hampshire charter was granted, the Vermont General Assembly brought Brandon's charter under its own jurisdiction when it adopted, "An Act to

establish the doings of a certain town meeting held in the town of Neshobe, and to alter the name of said town of Neshobe,” and

Whereas, two distinctive settlements emerged in the town, Brandon Village, much of which is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and Forest Dale, where a major ironworks center was established early in the 19th century, and

Whereas, by 1823, the Forest Dale blast furnace was producing pig iron and a variety of ornamental irons, and among the owners of the furnace, which in 2011 remains one of the best preserved of its kind, were the Green Mountain Iron Company and the Brandon Iron Company, which purchased and closed the facility in 1865, and

Whereas, in 1834, Thomas Davenport, who was working in Forest Dale, was credited with inventing the first electric motor, and in Brandon Village, John Conant manufactured cast-iron stoves which became highly cherished during the 19th century, and

Whereas, in the middle 1850s, John Howe Jr., working in Brandon Village, where he had operated the Brandon Iron and Car Wheel Company, and in partnership with technology processing patent holders Francis Strong and Thomas Ross, established the internationally known Howe Scale Company, and

Whereas, in 1856, the Newton and Thompson Manufacturing Company was established and operated in Brandon for well over 100 years, making wooden boxes, toys, and other articles while employing over 100 people, and

Whereas, without question, the most famous Brandon native is Stephen A. Douglas who was born in 1813, represented the state of Illinois in the United States Senate, debated Abraham Lincoln in a series of famous encounters in 1858, and whose life was commemorated with a monument in Brandon that was dedicated in 1913 on the 100th anniversary of his birth, and

Whereas, in 1832, the Vermont Scientific and Literary Institution at Brandon was established and operated by the Baptist Seminary, and it evolved into one of the finest secondary education institutions in the state, and

Whereas, in 1875, the home of the Ayrshire Breeders’ Association was established in Brandon and devoted to the preservation of breed records and the promotion of the Ayrshire breed, employing as many as 65 people in 1948, until its relocation out-of-state in 1982, and

Whereas, from 1915–1993, the town was home to the Brandon Training School, a state-operated residential care institution for the emotionally and mentally challenged, and

Whereas, the town of Brandon experienced a number of major fires in 1918, 1919, 1936, and 1943, and the great flood of 1938, and in each instance, the local citizenry demonstrated enormous resilience, and

Whereas, in 2011, the town will observe its 250th anniversary and plans to mark this auspicious occasion with memorable commemorative and celebratory events, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the town of Brandon on its 250th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Brandon town clerk.

H.C.R. 24.

House concurrent resolution honoring Brattleboro American Legion Band manager Don Strange

Offered by: Representatives Hebert of Vernon, Burke of Brattleboro, Edwards of Brattleboro and Stuart of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senator White

Whereas, in 1990, a group of brass music enthusiasts gathered at the Brattleboro American Legion Post #5 to enjoy a performance of The Chester Brass, and

Whereas, in conversation following the concert, a number of the Post #5 members decided to form a band under the sponsorship of the post whose board of trustees concurred with financial support, and

Whereas, Don Strange, a one-time U.S. Naval trumpeter, assumed the position of band manager, and

Whereas, the choice of Don Strange as manager of the Brattleboro American Legion Band demonstrated great foresight as the ensemble has flourished as a highly respected community musical institution, and

Whereas, during the past 20 years, the Brattleboro American Legion Band has delighted listeners and spectators at its concert and parade performances in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Utah, and

Whereas, the band has played a summer concert on the State House lawn, appears annually on Vermont Day at the Eastern States (Big E) Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts, and performs approximately 20 concerts annually, including appearances as part of the Twin State American Legion Band which also includes the Keene, New Hampshire American Legion Band, and

Whereas, the award-winning Brattleboro American Legion Band has distinguished itself nationally, having earned fourth-place honors at the 2002 American Legion National Convention band competition held in Charlotte, North Carolina and the second-place prize at a similar 2006 event in Salt Lake City, and

Whereas, after two decades of enabling the band to engage in grand music-making, Don Strange was honored on December 15 at the conclusion of his managerial tenure, and he anticipates spending more time with his four children, six grandchildren, and his wife of 46 years, Linda, but no doubt will still be seen at concerts, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Brattleboro American Legion Band manager Don Strange for his 20 years of creativity and ingenuity which have led to the band's great success, and congratulates him on a job well done, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 25.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the restoration and sesquicentennial anniversary of the historic Brandon Town Hall

Offered by: Representative Acinapura of Brandon

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, 150 years ago in 1861, as Vermonters were about to embark to defend the Union in the Civil War, the town of Brandon opened a glorious new Town Hall as a civic and cultural showplace that was the envy of the surrounding towns, and

Whereas, this impressive architectural gem, with its prominent Doric portico, served as the new home for the conduct of Brandon's municipal affairs such as selectboard meetings, annual and special town meetings, and election day voting, and

Whereas, although the transactions related to town governance were certainly of great import to the local citizenry, the Brandon Town Hall also became a grand community gathering place and performance venue, and

Whereas, films, live theatrical productions, including a New York City-based-theater company, which established a summer residency in the 1950s, and even a bustling flea market were among the building's eagerly anticipated events that drew spectators from beyond Brandon's borders, and

Whereas, in 1979, after 120 years of faithfully serving the town in many roles, the Brandon Town Hall was shuttered as an aged and deteriorating grand edifice which was too costly to maintain, and for nearly the rest of the 20th century it sat idle, but hardly forgotten, and

Whereas, in 1998, a new era dawned when a group of Brandon residents, intent on dusting off the cobwebs and restoring the building's rightful role in the community, established the Friends of the Brandon Town Hall, and

Whereas, this forward-looking, yet historically minded organization, hired the architectural firm of Robert Carl Williams and Associates to supervise the Brandon Town Hall's 21st century renaissance, and

Whereas, in addition to the State of Vermont, the Walter Cerf Community Fund, the Preservation Trust, the Freeman Foundation, the Vermont Arts Council, the First Brandon Bank, and the National Bank of Middlebury, many other businesses and individuals donated funds, materials, or services in the cause of raising the hall's curtains once more, and

Whereas, the improvements to the hall were numerous, including: adding beautiful marble steps at the entrance that Omya Inc. donated; restoring the lobby; and installing a handicapped accessible lift, a fire suppression system, an audio-visual system with a theatre-size movie screen, a high definition projector with surround sound, and new curtains that will reveal grand entertainment extravaganzas, and

Whereas, these enhancements enabled the Brandon Town Hall to resume its rightful place in the community when it hosted the premier of Gene Childer's *Vermont Sketches* in August 2008 and various performances by the Brandon Town Players, and

Whereas, in anticipation of the sesquicentennial anniversary of this grand edifice in 2011, the Friends of the Brandon Town Hall is proceeding with the installation of a new heating and cooling system and other interior improvements that will enable the building to be in use 12 months per year and provide maximum comfort to its appreciative patrons, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the restoration and sesquicentennial anniversary of the historic Brandon Town Hall, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mei Mei Brown, Chair of the Friends of the Brandon Town Hall.

H.C.R. 26.

House concurrent resolution recognizing January 2011 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Ram of Burlington, Grad of Moretown, Larson of Burlington, Aswad of Burlington, Bissonnette of Winooski, Brennan of Colchester, Buxton of Royalton, Christie of Hartford, Courcelle of Rutland City, Davis of Washington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Fisher of Lincoln, Font-Russell of Rutland City, Frank of Underhill, Haas of Rochester, Lippert of Hinesburg, Munger of South Burlington, Pearson of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Savage of Swanton, Shand of Weathersfield, Sweaney of Windsor, Webb of Shelburne, Weston of Burlington, Wright of Burlington and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senator Baruth

Whereas, the principle of individual human rights was embedded in the Vermont Constitution of 1777, which explicitly abolished adult slavery, and in 1786 Vermont adopted a law prohibiting the sale of slaves out of state, and

Whereas, in the Civil War era, Vermont became a link in the Underground Railroad, and

Whereas, in the 21st century, human trafficking, a form of slavery that is different from but certainly reminiscent of the enslavement of African Americans, persists in the form of sex and labor trafficking, and according to the Polaris Project, an international organization “committed to combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery,” there are at least 12 million and possibly as many as 27 million individuals enslaved worldwide due to human trafficking, and

Whereas, human trafficking entails both international sex and labor trafficking and on the federal level is proscribed under the United States Trafficking Victims Protection Act, and

Whereas, in 2009, the Vermont General Assembly enacted 13 V.S.A. § 2635a, entitled “Sex trafficking of children; sex trafficking of any person by force,” so as to further expand on 13 V.S.A. § 2635, the previously existing slave trafficking statute, and

Whereas, in 2010, the General Assembly enacted Act 85, “An act relating to human trafficking,” that created a human trafficking task force to develop recommendations to address the problem of human trafficking in Vermont and also directed the law enforcement advisory board to develop recommendations on how to combat this illegal activity, and

Whereas, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center's National Hotline has received calls, although small in number, from Vermont, and

Whereas, in order to focus attention on the human trafficking crisis, January 2011 is being recognized in a number of jurisdictions as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes January 2011 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to James Dold, Policy Counsel at the Polaris Project in Washington, D.C., and to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services.

H.C.R. 27.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2010 Champlain Valley Union High School Redhawks Division I and New England championship girls' cross-country team

Offered by: Representatives Lenes of Shelburne, Webb of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, McCullough of Williston, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Baruth, Fox, Lyons, Miller and Snelling

Whereas, after a laudable season of speedy victories, the Champlain Valley Union High School (CVU) Redhawks entered the 2010 state championship meet at Thetford Academy eagerly anticipating their chance to dash along the carefully routed five-kilometer course, and

Whereas, the CVU girls ran with agility and determination, with the team's five-member squad finishing third through sixth and tenth among the dozen participating runners and capturing a first-place team standing with 28 points, considerably ahead of second-place Essex, which finished with a 55-point tally, and

Whereas, the Redhawks now aimed for the even more illustrious honor of being crowned New England's 2010 premier girls' high school cross-country team, a meet also run at Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, as expected, the regional championship proved a more challenging race, but still the Redhawks finished with 24th-, 25th-, 28th-, 32nd-, and 62nd-place finishes garnering 88 points, a 33-point advantage over second-place LaSalle Academy from Providence, Rhode Island, and

Whereas, the entire squad of 2010 CVU girls' cross-country runners consisting of Rachel Baginski, Kristin Bauer, Elsa Bock, Ada Brandt, Cally Braun, Erin Carter, Carly Caswell, Talia Cohen, Ellen Colwell, Ming Fen Congdon, Charlotte Crelly-Byers, Delanie Cynewski, Ashley Degree, Adrienne Devita, Julianne Devita, Dallas Dodd, Autumn Eastman, Kaitlyn Fountain, Anna Franceshetti, Sierra Frisbee, Kestral Grevatt, Maya Grevatt, Laura Harris, Sophie Hess, Fiona Higgins, Julia Hughes, Hannah Johnson, Alexsey Jordick, Alex Krupp, Amanda Lougee, Lisa Monteith, Alexandra Murphy, Elizabeth Palmer, Laura Rauser, Elizabeth Rensch, Kayla Servin, Olivia Slater, Ellen Snyder, Summer Spillane, Taylor Spillane, Claire Trotter, Isabelle Unger, Rose Watts, and Chelsea Wiggins is extremely proud of its state and regional championships, and

Whereas, the CVU cross-country coaching staff, including Head Coach Scott Bliss and assistant coaches Cari Causey, Ryan Robitaille, and James Donegan, did a splendid job throughout the 2010 season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2010 Champlain Valley Union High School Redhawks Division I and New England cross-country girls' championship team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Scott Bliss at Champlain Valley Union High School.

H.C.R. 28.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Jennifer Lawson of Waltham on being named the 2011 Vermont Teacher of the Year

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, pedagogic proficiency mixed with enthusiasm and empathy for students are the fundamental prerequisites for a successful teacher, and

Whereas, in association with the Council of Chief State School Officers National Teacher of the Year award program, the Vermont department of education annually honors one Vermont teacher for special praise as the Vermont Teacher of the Year, and

Whereas, this much-coveted recognition is awarded based on an intensive evaluation of nominated individuals, and

Whereas, the department of education determined that among the many nominees, Jennifer Lawson, a middle school social studies and language arts

teacher at Vergennes Union High School and Middle School, was the ideal choice, and

Whereas, she graduated from the University of Vermont as an elementary education major and subsequently earned her master's degree from Connecticut College, and

Whereas, prior to beginning her current teaching position, Jennifer Lawson taught at the Vergennes Union Elementary School for six years, and

Whereas, her teaching style emphasizes becoming acquainted with each student's educational strengths and weaknesses and always keeping them in mind as she instructs her classes, and

Whereas, Jennifer Lawson espouses a special goal of "celebrating her students and broadening their perspective of the world," and

Whereas, one of her favorite teaching rituals is an educational exercise she labels "echoes" in which students recite a statement of fact and a classmate responds with a rejoinder, and

Whereas, greatly humbled to have been selected as the 2011 Vermont Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Lawson described the accolade as more of an award honoring her students than her, and

Whereas, Jennifer Lawson is continuing a family tradition as her father, Robert Lawson, recently retired from the University of Vermont faculty after a 44-year tenure, and he has described his daughter's teaching techniques, which he has observed firsthand, as coming from both her heart and her mind, and

Whereas, during the school assembly at which Jennifer Lawson was presented the glass apple symbolizing this award, the student body displayed its enthusiastic approval, and

Whereas, as the 2011 Vermont Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Lawson is speaking to groups across the state and will represent Vermont at the National Teacher of the Year competition in Washington, D.C., now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Jennifer Lawson of Waltham on being named the 2011 Vermont Teacher of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jennifer Lawson at Vergennes Union High School and Middle School.

H.C.R. 29.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Dr. Joe Klopfenstein on being named the American Association of Bovine Practitioners' 2010 Bovine Practitioner of the Year

Offered by: Representatives Lanpher of Vergennes and Clark of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, the treatment of dairy cattle, be they Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein-Friesian, Jersey, Milking Shorthorn, or Randall Lineback (the Vermont State Heritage Livestock Breed), requires medical expertise with a scope that exceeds the typical education provided in veterinary school, and

Whereas, veterinarian Dr. Joe Klopfenstein is the owner of Vergennes Large Animal Associates, where he first worked while a senior in veterinary school and to which he later returned to practice professionally because of Addison County's density of small dairy farms, and

Whereas, the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners has certified Dr. Joe Klopfenstein as a specialist in the treatment of large animals, an expertise he has applied with care, compassion, and skill on the dairy farms of Addison County, where he just might know every bovine within its boundaries, and

Whereas, proud of his role as a large-animal veterinarian, Dr. Joe Klopfenstein is dedicated to assisting veterinary students aspiring to follow in his footsteps, and he has offered many internships to help them facilitate this goal, and

Whereas, his community orientation has prompted him to volunteer veterinary services at the University of Vermont's CREAM (Cooperative for Real Education in Agricultural Management), a student-operated dairy farm, and he has often testified before General Assembly committees on dairy-related issues, and

Whereas, the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) recently honored this distinguished large-animal veterinarian when, to his total astonishment while he was sitting in the audience at the most recent AABP annual conference, he was named the 2010 Bovine Practitioner of the Year, and

Whereas, this richly deserved award is historic because Dr. Joe Klopfenstein is the first New England veterinarian to be so honored, and

Whereas, despite all of his veterinary pursuits, Dr. Joe Klopfenstein's commitment to the civic well-being of the city of Vergennes is exemplified through his service as a member of its board of aldermen, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Dr. Joe Klopfenstein on being named the American Association of Bovine Practitioners' 2010 Bovine Practitioner of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Joe Klopfenstein in Vergennes.

H.C.R. 30.

House concurrent resolution extending best wishes to Pete's Greens organic farm on the reconstruction of its burned barn in Craftsbury

Offered by: Representatives Young of Albany, Strong of Albany, Stevens of Shoreham and Ralston of Middlebury

Whereas, Pete's Greens in Craftsbury is no ordinary organic farm, as its owner, Pete Johnson, operates Vermont's largest community-supported agriculture service (CSA), known as "Good Eats," which proudly provides 370 member families with orders of vegetables, meats, and, of course, greens cultivated at the farm as well as grains, cheese, honey, and vinegar produced at other farms in Vermont and Quebec, and

Whereas, Pete's Greens also sells fresh produce at farmers' markets, to Hunger Mountain Co-Op in Montpelier, to the Vermont Pasta Company in Barre, and to restaurants as far away as Boston and New York, and

Whereas, tragically, Pete's Greens' three-story barn, containing crops and farm equipment, was totally destroyed in an early-morning fire on Wednesday, January 12, that apparently started at 3:00 a.m., just hours before a major new agricultural-sector initiative was about to be announced at the state house, and

Whereas, at 4:20 a.m., the already-awake Pete Johnson noticed the flames shooting through the barn's front doors and immediately phoned 911 for assistance, and

Whereas, the Craftsbury Fire Department, under the outstanding leadership of Chief Walter Gutzmann, as well as the Albany, Greensboro, and Wolcott fire departments, which offered their strong support, created a firefighting contingent of nearly 70 individuals who bravely battled the blaze for 12 hours, and

Whereas, despite these firefighters' heroic efforts and strategic ingenuity, the barn's destruction could not be halted, although Pete Johnson's nearby house and greenhouses fortunately were saved, and

Whereas, Pete Johnson estimated that a quarter-million dollars' worth of crops and equipment was destroyed and that his total loss will be approximately \$450,000, and

Whereas, rebuilding the barn will be a daunting task, but Pete Johnson is a man of great fortitude and hope, and he intends to return to a limited sales program in April and be back to a 100-percent operation by June with a new and even better barn, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends best wishes to Pete's Greens organic farm as it reconstructs its barn in Craftsbury, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Pete Johnson in Craftsbury and to the Craftsbury, Albany, Greensboro, and Wolcott fire departments.