

No. R-46. House concurrent resolution honoring former Woodstock Union High School teacher and athletic director and retiring football coach Jim McLaughlin.

(H.C.R.22)

Offered by: Representatives Clarkson of Woodstock, Bartholomew of Hartland, Gallivan of Chittenden, and Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack, and Nitka

Whereas, Jim McLaughlin was born in Bennington, and his career as a high school teacher, coach, and athletic director reflected a continuing commitment to the highest professional standards, and

Whereas, in 1981, after serving as an assistant football coach at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and coaching this sport at several Connecticut high schools, Jim McLaughlin joined the faculty at Woodstock Union High School (WUHS) as a health and science teacher and the school's football coach, and

Whereas, except for a short return to Connecticut in the late 1980s, he remained at WUHS as a classroom teacher until 2010, and

Whereas, his role as a football coach has become nearly legendary in Woodstock as his great success over the decades was indicative of his mastery of the game's strategic intricacies, and

Whereas, he began his WUHS coaching role in a winning manner, compiling a 22–5 record during his first three seasons as he sparked the presence of a strong team spirit and enthusiastic community support for the players, and

Whereas, in 1983, his coaching performance, communications skills, and rapport with students led to his first of two appointments as WUHS athletic director, and

Whereas, beginning in 1996, the WUHS Wasps earned 10 out of 11 consecutive berths in a divisional football championship game, winning seven including four straight titles starting in 2000, and

Whereas, in 2011–2012, Jim McLaughlin coached the football Wasps to a 21–2 record including two state championships; a perfect 11–0 2012 season; and a career finale 38–18 victory over BFA Fairfax in the 2012 Division III championship game, and

Whereas, with 211 career victories and after 31 gridiron seasons, this greatly admired coach and inspiring leader of young athletes has decided to retire from the coaching ranks, concluding a career of which he can be extraordinarily proud, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Woodstock Union High School teacher and athletic director and retiring football coach Jim McLaughlin, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jim McLaughlin in Woodstock.