

**Annette Cappy**

**Subject:** education resolution from Brattleboro Representative Town Meeting,  
March 22, 2014

The following is an excerpt of the minutes of Brattleboro's Representative Town Meeting held on Saturday, March 22, 2014. This resolution was overwhelmingly adopted at the meeting. It was the intent of the body that the resolution be forwarded to all Vermont legislators immediately. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or require a hardcopy of the resolution.

Thank you. Annette Cappy, Brattleboro Town Clerk

**Education Resolution - Don Webster**

Don Webster offered the following:

*To the Vermont House Education Committee, House Ways and Means, House Appropriations and Speaker of the House:*

*As Passed by your House Education Committee, H. 883 represents the most profound change in the governance of Vermont public schools in decades. The changes proposed are of such magnitude that much care needs to be taken before approval, and therefore we make this resolution.*

*Whereas, Representative Town Meeting is unique in Vermont and plays a vital role, along with our strong school boards, parents, and community members, in support of our elementary schools;*

*And whereas, the bill eliminates the role of Representative Town Meeting in the governance of our elementary schools;*

*And whereas strong civic participation is invaluable to student and school success, and whereas the changes required in this bill will seriously weaken that connection in the decision-making process;*

*And whereas citizens can only seriously debate and consider the merits of the proposed major restructuring if the bill includes all the details about how these new districts will operate.*

*And whereas the success of any restructuring of school governance will depend on the support of parents and citizens in their communities.*

*Be it Resolved*

*That the House table H. 883 until such time as it is able to provide more specificity on the working of the proposed governance system and incorporate them into the bill, and*

*That it then conduct a robust public conversation with local school boards and the public around the State to see if the public will support the proposed governance system.*

Following a brisk discussion, the resolution was, on a standing voice-vote, overwhelmingly adopted.

Annette L. Cappy  
Brattleboro Town Clerk  
230 Main Street, Suite 108  
Brattleboro. VT 05301