

No. R-25. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Dolloff Acres Farm in Springfield on its winning the 2014 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year Award.

(H.C.R.14)

Offered by: Representatives Emmons of Springfield, Forguites of Springfield, Dakin of Chester, Bartholomew of Hartland, Connor of Fairfield, Graham of Williamstown, Lawrence of Lyndon, Partridge of Windham, Purvis of Colchester, Smith of New Haven, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, for over 50 years, the University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Dairy Industry Association, in cooperation with the New England Green Pastures Program, have presented the Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year Award to an exemplary Vermont dairy operation, and

Whereas, among the factors used to evaluate nominated farms are the condition of the herd, pasture, and crop management, as well as the owners' broader farming community contributions, and

Whereas, the selection panel chose Dolloff Acres Farm in Springfield as the 2014 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year, and

Whereas, the proprietors of the 160-Holstein dairy farm are Heidi and Mike Dolloff, and they milk 80 of their cows, selling the milk to the Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) Cooperative, and

Whereas, they have repeatedly earned DFA's highest quality award, and

Whereas, in 1997, starting with an existing herd of 30 cows, the Dolloffs purchased a 102-acre farm property in Springfield, and

Whereas, with great effort, the Dolloffs brought the unused barn and milking parlor up to current standards and built a new heifer facility, and

Whereas, with the addition of adjoining rented property, the couple is able to raise most of the herd's feed, and

Whereas, the Dolloffs promote dairy activity at the Windsor County Fair, and Heidi Dolloff is President of the Windsor County Farm Bureau and was named the organization's 2008 Farm Bureau Woman of the Year, and

Whereas, Heidi and Mike Dolloff are the parents of 11-year-old Hannah and four-year-old Matthew, who are already interested in the farm's activities, and

Whereas, Dolloff Acres Farm was honored at the 2014 Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts and will be honored locally at the Vermont Farm Show in Essex Junction in January 2015, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Dolloff Acres Farm in Springfield on its winning the 2014 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Dolloff family in Springfield.