

No. R-321. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce President CEO George Malek.

(S.C.R.36)

By Senators Pollina, Cummings, and Doyle,

By Representatives Hooper of Montpelier, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, Donahue of Northfield, Klein of East Montpelier, LaClair of Barre Town, Lewis of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, Patt of Worcester, and Walz of Barre City,

Whereas, George Malek graduated from Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio, and

Whereas, he began his career as a journalist at the *New York Times* and then worked at the *Record-Herald* in Washington Court House, Ohio, and

Whereas, George Malek traded his reporter's notebook for the managerial duties of overseeing local and regional chambers of commerce, and

Whereas, he first served as the Washington Court House Chamber of Commerce's executive director, and

Whereas, having gained leadership experience, George Malek was ready for the challenge of overseeing a regional chamber's operation, and

Whereas, in 1979, the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce appointed him as its president and chief executive officer, and

Whereas, during his 37-year tenure, George Malek built an outstanding record of major accomplishments and organizational milestones, and

Whereas, foremost, he secured for the organization a permanent and modern headquarters, facilitating the purchase and expansion of Beaulieu Place in Berlin and ultimately retiring the debt incurred during the project, and

Whereas, he initiated important chamber events, including an annual golf outing, and

Whereas, the publications *Central Vermont Magazine* and the *Central Vermont Community Profile* were created under his guidance, and

Whereas, George Malek exercised strong leadership on public issues of importance to the business community, and

Whereas, his leadership expertise was essential in the formation of Chamber Benefits Inc., of which he served as president, and he contributed significantly to the establishment of the VACE Plus Insurance Benefit Program, and

Whereas, on the Chamber's behalf, George Malek created strategic alliances with the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation and the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission and played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority, and

Whereas, in 2016, George Malek is concluding his chamber leadership duties and looks forward to spending time with his wife, Carolyn, and children Duane, Jeannette, Jamie, Carmen, Matt, and Gabe, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce President George Malek, *and be it further*

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