

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House and Senate
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

April 23, 2015

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 128.

House concurrent resolution designating April 29, 2015, as National Walk@Lunch Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Frank of Underhill, McCullough of Williston, and Mrowicki of Putney

Whereas, National Walk@Lunch Day is a workplace walking event that encourages employees to walk during their lunch break, making exercise a convenient and easy choice during the day, and

Whereas, a brisk walk, even for only 30 minutes, five times a week, can result in significant health benefits, including lowering the risk of developing or dying from cardiovascular disease, hypertension, or type 2 diabetes, and it can improve one's muscles, bones, and joints, and

Whereas, walking is a fun activity that provides healthy exercise and an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, and

Whereas, physical activity is vital to the well-being of all Americans, and National Walk@Lunch Day is an opportunity for Americans to carve time out of their busy work schedules to exercise and become healthier, and

Whereas, in 2015, National Walk@Lunch Day will be observed on April 29, and it provides a great chance for healthy, midday exercise, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates April 29, 2015, as National Walk@Lunch Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Beth Esmond at BlueCross and BlueShield of Vermont.

H.C.R. 129.

House concurrent resolution recognizing April, 2015, as Fair Housing Month in Vermont

Offered by: House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs

Whereas, for generations, millions of Americans were denied the housing of their choice because of factors such as race, ethnicity, or religion, and

Whereas, on April 11, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, including Title VIII, known as the Fair Housing Act, and

Whereas, Vermont's Fair Housing Act, enacted in 1987 and expanded in subsequent legislative acts, now prohibits discrimination in the rental or sale of housing based on "race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status, religious creed, color, national origin, or disability of a person, or because a person intends to occupy a dwelling with one or more minor children, or because a person is a recipient of public assistance," making this law more protective than the federal statutes and among the most comprehensive in the nation, and

Whereas, despite both these federal and State legal guarantees, the dilemma of housing discrimination in Vermont has not disappeared, and

Whereas, a recent HUD-funded Vermont Legal Aid investigation of housing practices documented some significant housing access barriers in Vermont for persons based on their race or national origin and for persons either living with children or who have disabilities, and

Whereas, 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 137 created new incentives for mobile home park development as a way to increase the availability of affordable housing, and

Whereas, this act strengthened the antidiscrimination requirements of mobile home park leases and

Whereas, the same act also added a new statutory provision banning municipal planning policies that discriminate against affordable housing, and

Whereas, the Governor's designation of April as Fair Housing Month highlights the crucial, but unfinished, effort to eliminate all vestiges of housing discrimination in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes April, 2015, as Fair Housing Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Human Rights Commission.

H.C.R. 130.

House concurrent resolution honoring Judge Amy Marie Davenport in recognition of her many professional accomplishments

Offered by: Representatives Smith of Morristown, Lippert of Hinesburg, Grad of Moretown, and Jewett of Ripton

Offered by: Senators Campbell and Sears

Whereas, Amy Davenport represented the city of Montpelier as she served the people of Vermont in the House of Representatives from 1985 to 1990, and, in her last legislative term, she chaired the House Committee on Judiciary and was instrumental in the passage of legislation that created Vermont's Family and Environmental Courts, and

Whereas, the Honorable Amy Davenport's service to the people of Vermont in the Judicial Branch has been exemplary for 24 years as she presided in the Civil, Criminal, and Family Divisions of Vermont trial courts, and

Whereas, she was appointed as a Superior Court judge, specifically to preside in the new Family Court, a court she was instrumental in creating, and

Whereas, Judge Amy Davenport's exceptional talents led the Vermont Supreme Court to appoint her as Chief Administrative Judge in 2005, and

Whereas, in her role as Chief Administrative Judge, she shepherded the judiciary through a reorganization, assisting the Supreme Court in a successful legislative effort to consolidate and unify Vermont's trial courts into a Superior Court with five divisions: Civil, Criminal, Family, Probate, and Environmental, and

Whereas, Judge Amy Davenport provided exceptional assistance to the General Assembly as it created a new Juvenile Procedures Act that was sorely needed to protect the children of our State, and

Whereas, she was the recipient of the 2010 Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts, and

Whereas, professional excellence and attention to detail have marked her tenure on the bench and as an administrative judge, and

Whereas, Judge Amy Davenport has earned the respect and admiration of judges and employees of the judicial branch, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Judge Amy Marie Davenport in recognition of her many professional accomplishments, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Judge Amy Davenport.

H.C.R. 131.

House concurrent resolution designating May 10–16, 2015, as Women’s Lung Health Week in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Morris of Bennington, Ancel of Calais, Bancroft of Westford, Berry of Manchester, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Briglin of Thetford, Buxton of Tunbridge, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Dakin of Chester, Dakin of Colchester, Deen of Westminster, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Ellis of Waterbury, Evans of Essex, Fields of Bennington, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Hebert of Vernon, Hooper of Montpelier, Huntley of Cavendish, Jewett of Ripton, Klein of East Montpelier, Komline of Dorset, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lenes of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, O’Sullivan of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Pearson of Burlington, Purvis of Colchester, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Ryerson of Randolph, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sibia of Dover, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Till of Jericho, Toll of Danville, Townsend of South Burlington, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Woodward of Johnson, Yantachka of Charlotte, and Young of Glover

Whereas, every five minutes, a woman in the United States is told she has lung cancer, and

Whereas, lung cancer is the number one cancer killer of women in the United States, and

Whereas, the lung cancer death rate in women has almost doubled over the past 37 years, and

Whereas, advocacy and increased awareness will result in more and better treatment for women with lung cancer and other lung diseases and will ultimately save lives, and

Whereas, Lung Force is the national movement of the American Lung Association with the mission of making lung cancer history, uniting women to stand together with a collective strength, and a determination to lead the fight against lung cancer, and

Whereas, learning more about the detection and treatment of lung cancer can benefit all Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates May 10–16, 2015, as Women’s Lung Health Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the American Lung Association of the Northeast.

H.C.R. 132.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Clarendon Elementary School Peace Garden

Offered by: Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Eastman of Orwell, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Whereas, in the 1990s, students at Clarendon Elementary School dreamed of establishing a peaceful place where everyone in the community would be welcomed, and

Whereas, part of the rationale for establishing a peace garden was to remind everyone that peace begins in the heart of each person, and

Whereas, as a first step, the students worked with wax to create a peace plaque intended to represent four different concepts of peace, and

Whereas, these concepts are: first, peace between nations; second, peace between nature and individual human beings; third, peace among each other; and fourth, peace within ourselves, and

Whereas, the students then planted a crabapple tree, to symbolize life, and daffodils, as a reminder to everyone to strive for more peaceful ways that do not harm others, especially innocent children, and

Whereas, Clarendon Elementary School students formally inaugurated their newly created peace garden on May 4, 1995, and

Whereas, during the last 20 years, Clarendon Elementary School's intergenerational community has worked together to nurture and preserve this natural place of peaceful beauty for all to enjoy, and

Whereas, May 4, 2015, marks the 20th anniversary of the Clarendon Elementary School Community Peace Garden, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 20th anniversary of the Clarendon Elementary School Peace Garden and expresses its hope that the garden will continue as a special place where visitors will experience an atmosphere of harmony, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Clarendon Elementary School.

H.C.R. 133.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Mt. Saint Joseph Academy Mounties Division IV championship girls' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Cupoli of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, the Mt. Saint Joseph girls' basketball team played effectively throughout the 2014–2015 regular season, losing only a single game, and

Whereas, this outstanding record earned the Mounties the No. 1 seed for the Division IV girls' basketball playoffs, and

Whereas, the Mounties continued to command the floor during the playoff rounds and won a berth in the championship game in Barre against the three-time consecutive champions and No. 3 seeded Proctor High School Phantoms, and

Whereas, despite never trailing, the Mounties encountered stiff competition, including a tie at the third quarter's conclusion, before winning the game 35–29 and leaving the court as the 2015 Division IV girls' basketball champions, and

Whereas, the talented Mounties, who wrote a new page in Division IV girls' basketball competition, were Jenna Eaton, Olivia Corbett, Gabby Giancola, Sarah Harvey, Megan Eaton, Shannon Elms, Monica Schmelzenbach, Sophia Duffy, Bethany Garrow, Izzy Harvey, and Sally Hogan, and

Whereas, head coach Dan Elliott and assistant coaches Aaron Eaton, Bill Brusco, and Rob Harvey were always advising the team with useful guidance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2015 Mt. Saint Joseph Academy Mounties Division IV championship girls' basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mt. Saint Joseph Academy.

H.C.R. 134.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Mt. Saint Joseph Mounties Division II championship cheerleading team

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Cupoli of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Russell of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Helm of Fair Haven, Myers of Essex, Potter of Clarendon, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, during the 2014–2015 school year, the Mt. Saint Joseph Mounties cheerleading team was among the finest in Vermont, and

Whereas, the Mounties coordinated their routines and, when musical accompaniment was part of the cheering sequence, these talented cheerleaders strove to make certain they matched their moves to the music, and

Whereas, consistent practice proved a key element for the team's success during this school year, and

Whereas, the Mt. Saint Joseph cheerleaders' solid preparation, team spirit, and perseverance all contributed to their narrow but satisfying 145–144 Division II championship tournament victory in Vergennes over Bellows Free Academy St. Albans, and to the Mounties' first divisional title in five years, and

Whereas, the outstanding members of the 2014–2015 Mt. Saint Joseph cheerleading team were Devon Gilbert, Solange Reyna Viala, Lorie Dorce, Theresa Tedesco, Olivia Tiraboschi, MacKenzie Traska, and Jessica Watson, and

Whereas, the great coaches who assisted the team every step of the way were head coach Tracy Tedesco and assistant coach Vanessa Robertson, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2015 Mt. Saint Joseph Mounties Division II championship cheerleading team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mt. Saint Joseph Academy.

H.C.R. 135.

House concurrent resolution honoring Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling on his exemplary law enforcement career

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington, Bissonnette of Winooski, Cole of Burlington, Gonzalez of Winooski, Krowinski of Burlington, McCormack of Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pearson of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Sullivan of Burlington, and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, in 1986, Michael Schirling, then only in his mid-teens, started as a junior rescue squad member in Colchester and, in 1987, the town of Colchester hired him as a part-time emergency dispatcher, and

Whereas, he also served at a young age with the city of Winooski Police Department, and

Whereas, in 1989, the Burlington Police Department hired Michael Schirling, then a full-time University of Vermont (UVM) student and only 19 years of age, as an auxiliary officer, and

Whereas, although department policy now prohibits the hiring of police officers that young, it is extremely fortunate this was not the case in 1989, and

Whereas, after he earned a political science degree at UVM, the Burlington Police Department hired Michael Schirling as a full-time member of the force, and

Whereas, Michael Schirling's affinity for law enforcement was apparent during his service as a patrol officer and detective, and

Whereas, he assumed special assignments as an investigator and then director at the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations and, later, as the cofounder and commander of the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and

Whereas, returning to uniform duty, Michael Schirling was assigned as a patrol lieutenant and then as the department's administrative lieutenant, this latter role being excellent preparation for his promotion to deputy chief, and

Whereas, Michael Schirling's extensive and varied field and administrative experiences made him a superb choice to serve as Burlington Police Chief, a post to which the city appointed him in 2008, and

Whereas, in recent years, the Burlington Police Department has won four major awards from the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and

Whereas, after seven years as chief and over a quarter-century working in law enforcement, Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling will conclude his outstanding tenure as chief on June 30, 2015, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling on his exemplary law enforcement career, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling.

H.C.R. 136.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Rutland Young Professionals and its networking activities

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, Cupoli of Rutland City, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Haas of Rochester, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, and Tate of Mendon

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, the future vitality of greater Rutland as a hub of economic growth and prosperity is dependent, in part, on the area attracting and retaining young professionals interested in building their careers locally, and

Whereas, young professionals must feel welcomed in greater Rutland and committed to remaining for the long term, and

Whereas, recognizing the need to promote greater Rutland as a desirable place for young professionals to establish their careers, local residents have created initiatives intended to meet this objective, and

Whereas, initial efforts were started through groups known as RutBusters and Local Share, and

Whereas, in July 2013, some of the participants in these groups established Rutland Young Professionals (RYP) as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and

Whereas, the mission of RYP is “to engage with our community, create social and professional networking opportunities and work to build a Rutland area that attracts and retains young professionals,” and

Whereas, RYP sponsors events that are intended to offer young professionals interesting and productive networking opportunities, and

Whereas, the monthly RYP mixer focuses on a special location or guest speaker and offers attendees a chance to learn more about the greater Rutland community and to meet individuals with similar interests, and

Whereas, RYP also organizes one-time events, including the 2015 Rutland City Mayoral Debate held at the College of St. Joseph, and

Whereas, the organization has begun an exciting partnership with Castleton Downtown, a Castleton College community and business outreach center, and

Whereas, today, April 29, 2015, members of RYP are visiting the State House to see the lawmaking process in action, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Rutland Young Professionals and its networking activities, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Rutland Young Professionals.

H.C.R. 137.

House concurrent resolution recognizing the important role of adoptions in Vermont family life

Offered by: Representatives Strong of Albany, Bancroft of Westford, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Christie of Hartford, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dame of Essex, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Feltus of Lyndon, Fiske of Enosburgh, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, LaClair of Barre Town, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lewis of Berlin, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, McCoy of Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, Morrissey of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Myers of Essex, Parent of St. Albans City, Purvis of Colchester, Rachelson of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton,

Scheuermann of Stowe, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Smith of New Haven, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Trieber of Rockingham, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, every child deserves a family, love, and support, and

Whereas, there are no unadoptable children, just unfound homes, and

Whereas, Vermonters are grateful for the mothers who choose the difficult decision to make an adoption plan for their child and for the families who have opened their hearts and homes to bring a child in need of a family into their lives, and

Whereas, these adopting families need support and encouragement in order to meet the challenging emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of their adopted children, and

Whereas, Vermont adoption agencies work hard to unite children of all ages and needs with the appropriate loving family, and

Whereas, every year many children in Vermont are united with new families, and

Whereas, the need for loving families willing to adopt children continues, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the important role of adoptions in Vermont family life, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont adoption agencies.

H.C.R. 138.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Richford High School Rockets Division III championship girls' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Pearce of Richford, Beyor of Highgate, Branagan of Georgia, Connor of Fairfield, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Fiske of Enosburgh, Gamache of Swanton, Keenan of St. Albans City, Murphy of Fairfax, Parent of St. Albans City, and Savage of Swanton

Offered by: Senators Degree, McAllister, Rodgers, and Starr

Whereas, the 2014–2015 Richford High School Rockets girls' basketball team were not an expert's pick to win this year's Division III championship, and

Whereas, the Rockets started the season with a positive attitude, convinced they had the players needed to make the team a 2015 championship contender, and

Whereas, through the regular season and playoffs, their on-court performance, be it on offense or defense, was far above average, and

Whereas, the Rockets earned a right to a championship game courtside bench and the privilege of challenging top-seeded Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, in this decisive game, rankings proved irrelevant, as Richford had a four-quarter command of the ball, and the Rockets outplayed Thetford for a stunning 71–36 victory and clinched the 2015 Division III championship, and

Whereas, the talented Rockets, who completed a great 20–4 season, included Marijella Collins, Alexandria Benoit, Jalyn Collins, Allie O’ Brien, Sarah Doe, Morgan McAllister, Sadie Fuller, Hannah Gleason, and Gabby Coons, and

Whereas, first-year coach Jenessa Swainbank began her coaching career on a high note, and assistant coaches Kasey Thompson and Jennifer Gross and team manager Julie Gleason were each extremely helpful throughout the season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2015 Richford High School Rockets Division III championship girls’ basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Richford High School.

H.C.R. 139.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Susan Elizabeth Keese Pyatak of South Newfane

Offered by: Representatives Long of Newfane, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Berry of Manchester, Burke of Brattleboro, Buxton of Tunbridge, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Cole of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Dakin of Colchester, Deen of Westminster, Eastman of Orwell, Ellis of Waterbury, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Fields of Bennington, Forguites of Springfield, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Head of South Burlington, Jerman of Essex, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Krebs of South Hero, Krowinski of Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lenes of Shelburne, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of

Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Patt of Worcester, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, Sharpe of Bristol, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sibia of Dover, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Till of Jericho, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Wright of Burlington, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, the warm and always informative voice of Susan Keese was familiar to listeners of Vermont Public Radio (VPR), where this talented journalist started as a Vermont Edition producer in 2002 and served as the station's Manchester-based southern Vermont correspondent since 2009, and

Whereas, her diverse broadcast portfolio included coverage of Vermont Yankee and Tropical Storm Irene and fun features on the Gilfeather Turnip Festival and a Vermont-themed puppet show, and

Whereas, Susan Keese took great pride in preparing every story, be it lighthearted or momentous, and

Whereas, she covered a large geographic territory and kept a sleeping bag in her car in case an unexpected, overnight reporting adventure developed, and

Whereas, even though Susan Keese worked a considerable distance from VPR's Colchester headquarters, she was admired as a wonderful supporter of her colleagues and was happy to offer her advice and suggestions on their projects, and

Whereas, prior to this award-winning journalist's speaking a single word on VPR's airwaves and cyber streams, she was a professionally accomplished writer and editor who led and taught at creative writing workshops, and

Whereas, Susan Keese was born in Philadelphia and attended Wittenberg College in Springfield, Ohio, before the pull of the 1960s counterculture movement and a strong desire to be a writer attracted her to New York, and

Whereas, her life's explorations included stops across the nation before meeting her future husband, Bud Pyatak, at a New Hampshire commune, and

Whereas, after their marriage, the Pyataks lived in Connecticut then moved to Vermont, first to Brattleboro and eventually to South Newfane, and

Whereas, Vermont proved journalistically conducive as Susan Keese edited the Marlboro College alumni magazine, *Potash Hill*, wrote the *No Stone Unturned* column in the *Rutland Herald-Times Argus Sunday Magazine* and articles for the *Boston Globe*, the *New York Times*, *Vermont Life*, and other publications, and

Whereas, this wonderful wife, mother of Annie and Christopher, grandmother of Zoe, Callin, and Emmett, sister of James, and a dear relative, colleague, and friend to many others died all too soon on March 7, 2015, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends sincere condolences to the family, colleagues, and friends of Susan Keese Pyatak, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of her family and to Vermont Public Radio.

S.C.R. 16.

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Raney Aronson-Rath on winning the 2015 Vermont Public Media Ambassador Award

Whereas, Raney Aronson-Rath grew up in the Orange County town of Washington and graduated from Chelsea High School, and

Whereas, she graduated from the University of Wisconsin, majoring in South Asian studies and history, and

Whereas, desiring to pursue a career in journalism, Raney Aronson-Rath earned a master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and

Whereas, her stellar career as both a print and electronic journalist included positions at ABC News, the *Wall Street Journal*, and MSNBC, and

Whereas, in 2007, the PBS program *Frontline* hired Raney Aronson-Rath as a senior producer, offering her an exciting new opportunity for pursuing investigative journalism, and

Whereas, she oversaw the production of significant *Frontline* episodes including "News War," "The Last Abortion Clinic" and "Post Mortem," and

Whereas, the superb quality of Raney Aronson-Rath's broadcasts resulted in her 2012 promotion to the job of *Frontline*'s deputy executive producer, and

Whereas, under Raney Aronson-Rath's leadership, the program has won major broadcast journalism awards and gained new funding for *Frontline*'s investigative reporting capacity, and

Whereas, Raney Aronson-Rath has expanded *Frontline*'s digital footprint by launching a YouTube channel with original content and establishing other major interactive projects, and

Whereas, Raney Aronson-Rath was honored to be named as a 2014–2015 Fellow at the MIT Open Doc Lab, and

Whereas, she has spoken at many academic forums, including events at MIT, New York University, and Stanford University, and

Whereas, Vermont PBS has selected Raney Aronson-Rath as its 2015 Vermont Public Media Ambassador Award winner, in recognition of her contributions as a Vermonter to the evolution of public media, and

Whereas, this award will be presented to the honoree on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Raney Aronson-Rath on winning the Vermont PBS 2015 Vermont Public Media Ambassador Award, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Raney Aronson-Rath.