

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

January 28, 2016

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. 212.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Town of Colchester on its selection as one of *Money Magazine's* Top 50 Best Places to Live in America

Offered by: Representatives Dakin of Colchester, Brennan of Colchester, Condon of Colchester, and Purvis of Colchester

Offered by: Senator Mazza

Whereas, *Money Magazine* annually ranks the 50 best small cities in the country in which to reside, and

Whereas, the selection criteria include "great jobs, strong economies, affordable homes, excellent schools, and that special something that makes it a great place to live," and

Whereas, among the top 50 places *Money Magazine* chose was Colchester, the only Vermont municipality on which this honor was bestowed, and

Whereas, aside from citing basic statistics, including a population of 17,638; a median income of \$66,413; and a 7.1 percent job growth, *Money Magazine* described other less quantifiable factors in granting this special status to Colchester, and

Whereas, one of the considerations was a feeling of living in the country while retaining easy access to downtown Burlington, and

Whereas, also mentioned was the quality of homes available for sale in specific price ranges, and

Whereas, the scenic beauty of Malletts Bay was an important consideration in assessing Colchester's eligibility for this coveted placement, and

Whereas, the above-average scoring of Colchester High School students on standardized tests was also a positive attribute, and

Whereas, the presence of St. Michael's College provides an outstanding academic and cultural resource for both its student body and the entire town, and

Whereas, the Town of Colchester was delighted to be awarded this great national recognition, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Town of Colchester on its selection as one of *Money Magazine*'s Top 50 Best Places to Live in America, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Colchester Town Clerk.

H.C.R. 213.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of Independence Lodge #10 in Orwell

Offered by: Representatives Buxton of Tunbridge and Eastman of Orwell

Whereas, for two centuries, Independence Lodge #10 (originally #40), a Masonic Lodge in Orwell, has provided camaraderie for its members, and

Whereas, the lodge's proud history started on October 9, 1815, when the Grand Lodge of Vermont F&AM (Most Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of Vermont) issued the Orwell lodge its charter, and

Whereas, the first three leading officers of Independence Lodge #40 were Waite Branch (Worshipful Master), Ashur Nichols (Senior Warden), and Joel Barber (Junior Warden), and

Whereas, early on, Independence Lodge #40 convened its meetings at various Orwell locations, including upstairs in the Eagle Inn, and

Whereas, in the 1830s and 1840s, anti-Masonic hysteria and prejudice were prevalent in Vermont, but Independence Lodge #40 persevered, conducting its meetings clandestinely until 1847, when it was once again safe to meet openly, and

Whereas, in 1849, Independence Lodge #40 was redesignated as Independence Lodge #10, the numeric designation it still retains, and

Whereas, by the 1860s, Independence Lodge #10 sought to end its nomadic existence, and for the sum of \$250.00 purchased a white clapboard building on Orwell's Main Street, and

Whereas, on January 23, 1867, Independence Lodge #10 inaugurated its new home with a meeting in a room on the building's second floor, its meeting location ever since, and

Whereas, from 1934 to 1936, an Independence Lodge #10 member, Julius Charles Thomas, served as the Grand Master of the Most Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of Vermont, and

Whereas, Independence Lodge #10 has awarded scholarships to children and grandchildren of its members, recognized outstanding area sixth graders, and donated funds to local schools and civic groups, and

Whereas, on September 19, 2015, Independence Lodge #10 celebrated its bicentennial anniversary with officers of the Grand Lodge of Vermont dedicating a new granite cornerstone on the lodge's historic Main Street building, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the bicentennial anniversary of Independence Lodge #10 in Orwell, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Independence Lodge #10 in Orwell.

H.C.R. 214.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the successful completion of the new Waterbury State Office Complex

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, in August 2011, Tropical Storm Irene precipitated the Winooski River to inundate the Waterbury State Office Complex, and

Whereas, built as the Vermont State Hospital, in recent years the Waterbury State Office Complex had housed the Agency of Human Services, the Agency of Natural Resources, and the Department of Public Safety, serving as the daytime home for approximately 1,500 State employees, and

Whereas, in the aftermath of Irene, only the Department of Public Safety was able to return, and

Whereas, the reintroduction of a large State employee presence to Waterbury was critical for both the provision of vital State services and the vibrancy of the town's economy, and

Whereas, arranging the multimillion-dollar reconstruction financing of the Waterbury State Office Complex was an extensive process involving funds from the State of Vermont, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and insurance proceeds from the flood damage, and

Whereas, the rebuilding of the Waterbury State Office Complex required 41 months of intensive labor, and the components include: both a new 86,000-square-foot building and a 20,000-square-foot maintenance facility; 115,000 square feet of historic preservation work; and renovations to 13 core buildings, and

Whereas, the new main office structure was designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold standards, and all occupied space is located above the projected 500-year flood plain, and

Whereas, the Department of Buildings and General Services and the Division of Historic Preservation, in partnership with the architecture and design firms Freeman French Freeman of Burlington and Goody Clancy of Boston; PC Construction of South Burlington; Rist-Frost-Shumway Engineering, P.C. of Laconia, New Hampshire; and Engineering Ventures, PC of Burlington worked in unison to complete the largest State building project in Vermont's history, and

Whereas, on December 14, 2015, the new Waterbury State Office Complex was dedicated in a much-anticipated celebratory ceremony, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the successful completion of the new Waterbury State Office Complex, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and each of the private sector contractors cited in this resolution.

H.C.R. 215.

House concurrent resolution honoring Marion Paris for her 46-plus years of dedicated public service working with families and children

Offered by: Representative Pugh of South Burlington

Whereas, Marion Paris has a special empathy for the plight of children and families in crisis, and

Whereas, for four and one-half decades, Marion Paris was a staff member at the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and its predecessor offices, and

Whereas, in the performance of her duties, Marion Paris combined compassion and a thorough appreciation of children's best interests, and

Whereas, Marion Paris was known for often working far beyond the call of duty, to be certain she extended every effort to assist a child, and

Whereas, she arranged for thousands of youngsters to be placed in residential treatment centers or community-based wrap-around centers, and

Whereas, her colleagues in State government appreciated Marion Paris's true commitment to her often emotionally challenging duties, and

Whereas, these sensitive assignments were completed in close collaboration with colleagues from the Department of Mental Health and the Agency of Education, and

Whereas, a superb example of Marion Paris's devotion to children was her major role in establishing a golf tournament that raises funds for educational programs benefiting foster youth, and

Whereas, Marion's dedication to this project has helped raise tens of thousands of dollars and has involved many hours of her own time, and

Whereas, in recognition of her essential role in the tournament's continuing success, the event has been named the "Marion Paris Tournament," and

Whereas, in 2014, she was selected as the DCF Employee of the Year, and Governor Shumlin praised her work enthusiastically at the award's presentation, and

Whereas, when Marion Paris announced her retirement from a fulfilling career that lasted 46 years, 2 months, and 11 days, she commented that she would not trade one moment of it for an alternative life's path, and

Whereas, the career record of accomplishment has few parallels in State Government, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Marion Paris for her 46-plus years of dedicated public service working with families and children, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 216.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Chloe Levins on her triumphs on the golf and biathlon courses

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Eastman of Orwell, Fields of

Bennington, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, to the casual observer, golf and biathlon are two seemingly dissimilar sports, and

Whereas, golf is a slow-paced game, in which quiet is essential for the players focusing on their pending swing, and

Whereas, in contrast, biathlon competition involves fast-paced skiing and the noisy firing of rifles, and

Whereas, despite the vastly different characteristics of these sports, Chloe Levins, a Rutland High School senior, has excelled at both, and

Whereas, Chloe Levins was the individual girls' golf State high school champion in 2013 and again in 2015, and

Whereas, while she is out on Vermont's green links during the spring sunshine, her winters are spent in more northerly climes, and

Whereas, at the recent USA Youth and Junior Biathlon Trails in Anchorage, Alaska, Chloe Levins won three events in the youth division, including the 6 kilometer sprint, the 7.5 kilometer sprint, and the 10 kilometer pursuit, and

Whereas, despite these stellar results, Chloe Levins considered the Alaskan course especially challenging because she encountered 40-mile-per-hour winds, and

Whereas, Chloe Levins's 2016 winter biathlon schedule also includes her representing the United States at the Youth and Junior World Championships in Romania from January 25 to February 2 and then at the Youth Olympic Games in Norway, later in February, and

Whereas, she explains the two sports' commonality is a need "to be very even and relaxed," and

Whereas, Chloe Levins is also an outstanding student, who in the fall of 2016 will follow her older siblings to Middlebury College, where she plans to join the golf team while still pursuing biathlon competition opportunities, and

Whereas, her remarkable athletic career, in combination with a strong academic record, are admirable achievements, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Chloe Levins on her triumphs on the golf and biathlon courses and wishes her every future success in her academic and athletic endeavors, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 217.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 225th anniversary of Congress's admission of Vermont as our nation's 14th State

Offered by: Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly, Branagan of Georgia, Jerman of Essex, and Sweaney of Windsor

Whereas, Vermont's admission into the United States as the 14th State required a 24-year campaign of repeated petitions to Congress and political intrigue, and

Whereas, on January 15, 1777, an assembly of local citizens met in Westminster and declared the independence of the State of New Connecticut, and

Whereas, however, the new State's territory was situated entirely within the boundaries of New York State, which proved a difficult barrier to overcome for statehood approval, and

Whereas, in April 1777, New Connecticut petitioned Congress to be "ranked among the free and independent states," and

Whereas, nearly contemporaneous with the petition, this aspiring State became known as Vermont, and

Whereas, statehood advocate Dr. Thomas Young predicted the new State's admission as the 14th State would occur upon the adoption of a State Constitution and the election of congressional delegates, and

Whereas, to the contrary, in June 1777, Congress rejected the petition and described the statehood proposal as "derogatory to the honor of congress," and

Whereas, undeterred, in July 1777, Vermont leaders convened in Windsor, adopting a State Constitution that afforded broad freedoms including a ban on slavery and that established the General Assembly and statewide officers, and

Whereas, Vermont continued to seek admission into the Union, but in June 1780, Congress adopted a resolution declaring the effort "highly unwarrantable and subversive of the peace and welfare of the United States," and

Whereas, after Vermont officials explored aligning with the British, and the General Assembly's February 1782 reversal of its prior annexation of additional New York towns and a number of New Hampshire municipalities, the congressional attitude toward Vermont's statehood started becoming more favorable, and

Whereas, finally, on March 4, 1791, Congress adopted an act granting Vermont's admission into the Union as the 14th state, and March 4, 2016 marks the 225th anniversary of this momentous occasion, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 225th anniversary of Congress's admission of Vermont as our nation's 14th State, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 218.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial anniversary of the U.S. government's 1916 deployment of the Vermont National Guard to the Mexican Expedition

Offered by: Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly, Branagan of Georgia, and Jerman of Essex

Whereas, in the aftermath Mexico's revolution that started in 1910, rival political factions emerged under the leadership of Francisco "Pancho" Villa and Venustiano Carranza, and

Whereas, in October 1915, the U.S. Government recognized Carranza as Mexico's leader and provided assistance that helped facilitate a major Carranza victory over Villa in the Battle of Agua Prieta, and

Whereas, on January 11, 1916, Mexican forces removed 16 Americans from a train near Santa Isabel and killed them, and, on March 9, 1916, Villa's men attacked the U.S. Army's Camp Furlong in Columbus, New Mexico, and eight American soldiers and ten civilians perished, and

Whereas, on March 15, 1916, U.S. General John Pershing led a force of three provisional brigades into Mexico in search of Villa and, on March 29, 1916, the Americans encountered the "Villistas," as they were called, at the Battle of Guerrero, and over 75 Mexicans were killed or wounded, and

Whereas, the National Defense Act of 1916 established the U.S. National Guard, and, pursuant to this new law, on June 18, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson mobilized National Guard units from 45 states (the militia of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas having been called previously), and

Whereas, Colonel Ira L. Reeves took initial charge of administering the deployment of the Vermont Guardsmen, and

Whereas, numerous logistic and administrative difficulties ensued, but eventually Vermont National Guard personnel reached Eagle Pass, Texas, and

Whereas, despite these problems, U.S. Colonel Morgan of the Inspector General's department complimented the Vermont forces as "the best National Guard regiment at Eagle Pass," and

Whereas, within a few months, the Vermonters were homeward bound, without having crossed into Mexico or confronting Mexican forces, but having gained important military training that proved valuable in World War I, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the centennial anniversary of the U.S. government's 1916 deployment of the Vermont National Guard to the Mexican Expedition, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 219.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Jay Karpin on the French government's appointing him a Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honor

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, in 1942, immediately on graduating from Hicksville (New York) High School, Jay Karpin enlisted for World War II military service in the U.S. Army Air Force, and

Whereas, he trained as a bombardier, the member of an air crew who targeted the aerial bombs, and as an aircraft navigator and was assigned to the 493rd Bombardment Group of the Eighth Air Force in Europe, and

Whereas, on historic D-Day (June 6, 1944), Jay Karpin flew his first combat mission, one of that day's first Allied inland-bound bombing missions and, from above, witnessed the ships and soldiers landing at Omaha Beach, and

Whereas, he flew his 35th and final bombing mission on November 25, 1944, achieving 100 percent bombing accuracy from either a B-24 Liberator or a B-17 Flying Fortress, drawing on his singular focus and youthful maturity, and

Whereas, Jay Karpin's survival was fortunate, as more than 26,000 members of the Eighth Air Force perished during World War II, and

Whereas, the U.S. Government awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross; the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters; the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with four service stars; and a Presidential Unit Citation from President Franklin Roosevelt; and Eighth Air Force Commander, Major General James Doolittle, issued him a personal citation of commendation, and

Whereas, post-war, Jay Karpin worked at Republic Aviation in New York State, moved to Grafton, Vermont, in 1958, serving on the selectboard and planning commission and, working in his barn, established now Springfield-based Vermont Precision Products, and

Whereas, the U.S. Air Force honored Jay Karpin as a member of its Veterans in Blue program, and

Whereas, in recognition of Jay Karpin's heroism and bravery as a World War II bombardier of the European military theater, the French government recently awarded him the Legion of Honor, that nation's highest award for a noncitizen, and in January 2016, at 91 years of age, he will formally accept his appointment as a Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honor in a ceremony at the French Consul General's Office in Boston, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Jay Karpin on the special recognition of the French government's appointing him a Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honor, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 220.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Bennington Battle Monument

Offered by: Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly, Branagan of Georgia, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Jerman of Essex, Morris of Bennington, and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Sears and Campion

Whereas, the Revolutionary War's Battle of Bennington is closely associated with Vermont, even though the battle was fought across the border in Walloomsac Heights, New York, and

Whereas, in the summer of 1777, two brigades of British forces, under the command of British General John Burgoyne, were seeking to isolate New England militarily from the rest of the United States, and

Whereas, Burgoyne's forces, having suffered a tactical loss to American forces at the Battle of Hubbardton, were marching southbound toward Saratoga, New York, and a decisive defeat to come in October, 1777, and

Whereas, more immediately, in need of military stores and general supplies, the British, who had support from German mercenaries, Indians, and loyalists, learned of a supply depot in Bennington and headed in that direction, and

Whereas, the Council of Safety of the newly established Republic of Vermont sought to halt this British advance and solicited military support from the State of New Hampshire, and

Whereas, the independence forces appointed former Continental Army Colonel John Stark as a Brigadier General directed to lead local independence forces in this effort, and

Whereas, on August 16, 1777, General Stark led a combined contingent of soldiers from Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire that twice defeated the British, the second time with the welcomed assistance of Vermonters Seth Warner and the Green Mountain Boys, and

Whereas, in August 1887, the cornerstone was laid for the Bennington Monument, an imposing obelisk towering over Bennington, situated at the site of the elusive 1777 military stores and intended to commemorate the great Vermont victory at the Battle of Bennington, and

Whereas, the capstone was set in place in November of 1889, and

Whereas, in 1891, the over-306-foot-high Bennington Monument, the tallest structure in Vermont, containing 412 steps, was dedicated, and

Whereas, numerous visitors have marveled at the magnificent view from the observation platform at the top of the monument, and

Whereas, 2016 marks the Bennington Monument's 125th anniversary, and it is being celebrated with the installation of a much-needed new elevator to transport visitors to the platform, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 125th anniversary of the Bennington Battle Monument, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send two copies of this resolution to the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

H.C.R. 221.

House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding municipal service of former Rockingham Town Clerk Doreen Aldrich

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, the Town of Rockingham includes three interdependent municipalities: the town and the incorporated villages of Bellows Falls and Saxtons River, and

Whereas, in March 1988, Doreen Aldrich became a part-time assistant town clerk, and assumed full-time status the following July, and

Whereas, for seven years, she participated in the various duties of the town clerk's office, and

Whereas, in November 1995, upon the retirement of the incumbent Rockingham Town Clerk, Doreen Aldrich was appointed to the position, and she was reelected repeatedly since her initial appointment, and

Whereas, Doreen Aldrich took her responsibilities in her new role seriously, completing the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association's municipal clerk certification course in 1996, and then the master municipal clerk certification in 2003, and

Whereas, Rockingham's multiple municipalities meant Doreen Aldrich had administrative responsibilities for three separate municipal meetings, two village trustee boards, the town's selectboard, and complex election administration duties, and

Whereas, Doreen Aldrich was always careful to maintain public neutrality when controversial topics were being deliberated at an official meeting or being voted upon in an election, and

Whereas, the town's municipal records have always been a special concern for Doreen Aldrich, and, after Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, she was pleased that the town established a much-needed records computerization and restoration fund, and

Whereas, after nearly two decades of respected service as Rockingham Town Clerk, Doreen Aldrich concluded her tenure on July 1, 2015, and is being honored with a dedication in the Town of Rockingham's 2014–2015 Annual Report, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the outstanding municipal service of former Rockingham Town Clerk Doreen Aldrich, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Doreen Aldrich in Rockingham.

H.C.R. 222.

House concurrent resolution honoring former Rockingham Zoning Administrator and Health Officer Ellen L. Howard for her outstanding public service

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, a municipal zoning administrator must develop an expertise on all aspects of a town's zoning ordinances, and

Whereas, this public official works closely with the local zoning and planning boards, both in the drafting of zoning ordinances and their application to specific requests for permits and variances, and

Whereas, since August 1979, Ellen Howard ably served as municipal zoning administrator, and

Whereas, when confronted with challenging issues, she addressed them in a professional and thoughtful way, and

Whereas, the Rockingham Zoning Board of Adjustment respected her opinions and high level of personal integrity, and

Whereas, concurrent with her service as Rockingham's Zoning Administrator, Ellen Howard also served as the town's Health Officer, and

Whereas, in this role, she was responsible for overseeing any health emergency in Rockingham, which often focused on rabies-associated issues, and

Whereas, during her tenure as Rockingham Health Officer, Ellen Howard acted conscientiously in reminding local residents that both wild and unknown domestic animals could be rabies carriers, and that it was imperative to protect and vaccinate pets, and

Whereas, Ellen Howard also served on many town committees and was instrumental in locating the Bellows Falls Waypoint Center, an outdoor gathering place and information center situated near the Connecticut River, in the Village of Bellows Falls, and

Whereas, after a career of exemplary work, Ellen Howard retired from the Rockingham town government in July 2015, and is being honored with a

dedication in the 2014–2015 Town of Rockingham’s Annual Report, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Rockingham Zoning Administrator and Health Officer Ellen L. Howard for her outstanding municipal public service, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 223.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Saxtons River Distillery on its 10th anniversary and on the San Francisco World Spirits Competition’s awarding the distillery a 2015 gold medal for its Perc Coffee Liqueur

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham, Trieber of Rockingham, Burke of Brattleboro, Stuart of Brattleboro, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Whereas, Christian Stromberg’s ancestors fled Czarist-controlled Lithuania, bringing to the United States their national tradition of producing flavored liqueurs, and

Whereas, after arriving in Vermont, Christian Stromberg gained an appreciation for the State’s maple sugar industry, and

Whereas, in 2006, Christian Stromberg established Saxtons River Distillery, combining his ancestral heritage of producing flavored liqueurs with the maple resources of Vermont, and

Whereas, Saxtons River Distillery’s first product was an award-winning Sapling Maple Liqueur, and both maple bourbon and maple rye followed, and

Whereas, more recently, Christian Stromberg has focused his distillery on the allure of coffee-flavored liqueur, and

Whereas, to produce this new liqueur, he sought a great coffee bean and selected the discerning coffee makers of the Brattleboro-based Mocha Joe’s Roasting Company as the source, and

Whereas, in 2015, Saxtons River Distillery’s spirit specialists were so pleased with their new Perc Coffee Liqueur, they entered it in the prestigious San Francisco World Spirits Competition (SFWSC), and

Whereas, Saxtons River Distillery’s Perc Coffee Liqueur’s taste, texture, and overall palate satisfaction proved irresistible, and the competition’s judges honored the Vermont entrant with a gold medal, and

Whereas, the SFWSC's awarding of a 2015 gold medal to Saxtons River Distillery was the first time in a decade the competition's judges deemed a coffee liqueur worthy of their highest accolade, and

Whereas, the receipt of the 2015 gold medal reaffirms Saxtons River Distillery's distinguished contribution to the flavored liqueur market as the distillery embarks on its second decade, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Saxtons River Distillery on its 10th anniversary and on the San Francisco World Spirits Competition's awarding the distillery a 2015 gold medal for its Perc Coffee Liqueur, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Christian Stromberg at the Saxtons River Distillery in Brattleboro.

H.C.R. 224.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Senior Games Association for its encouragement of physical fitness for older Vermonters

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington, Berry of Manchester, Christie of Hartford, Clarkson of Woodstock, Frank of Underhill, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Pearson of Burlington, Sharpe of Bristol, Sullivan of Burlington, Till of Jericho, and Troiano of Stannard

Whereas, the Vermont Senior Games Association (VSGA), established in 1983, seeks to promote fun, fitness, and fellowship among the 50-years-of-age-and-older generation, and

Whereas, the breadth of the organization's programs ranges from informal physical fitness activities to the demanding State Championships, and even the National Senior Games, which, in 2015, included a record 54 Vermonters who won 25 medals, and

Whereas, VSGA offers athletic competitions in many sports, including alpine skiing, basketball, bowling, golf, Nordic classic, and snowshoeing, and

Whereas, except for the State Championships that offer gold, silver, and bronze medals and charge the participants a nominal fee, VSGA activities are offered without charge, and

Whereas, although the honor of winning medals is a special incentive, the VSGA is intended for all interested Vermonters in the 50-plus age group, and

persons of all athletic abilities are invited to enjoy the many activities and become healthier in the process, and

Whereas, the MOVE for well-being program (MOVE) is a partnership between the VSGA and the University of Vermont's Center on Aging intended to encourage physical activity and well-being among Vermonters age 50 and older, who might otherwise not exercise, and

Whereas, major supporters of MOVE include MVP Health Care, Northfield Savings Bank, the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association, and the Vermont Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, along with many other commercial, educational, and recreational organizations, and

Whereas, VSGA has introduced healthy living options for older Vermonters, enabling the 50-plus generation to enjoy exciting, and often new, recreational opportunities, and

Whereas, today, January 28, 2016, members of the VSGA are visiting the State House to spread the good word that physical fitness is not only for the chronologically young, but meant for everyone, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Vermont Senior Games Association for its encouragement of physical fitness for older Vermonters, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Senior Games Association.