CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

Text of House and Senate Concurrent Resolutions

of

February 11, 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. 233.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Richard Walters of Shelburne


Offered by: Senators Sirotkin, Ashe, Ayer, Baruth, Lyons, Snelling, and Zuckerman

Whereas, Dick Walters’s nine-decades-long life was one of business leadership, multi-season outdoor recreational pursuits, deeply personal and historically significant public advocacy, and, above all, love of his family, and

Whereas, Dick Walters was born in Brooklyn, New York, and, while a high school student, he met his future wife, Ginny, and their marriage endured for seven decades, and

Whereas, he graduated from Yale University and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and

Whereas, his career in retail merchandising included staff positions at both B. Altman and Macy’s department stores in New York City and as a company vice president at Halle’s in Cleveland, Ohio, and Gimbel’s in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and

Whereas, Dick Walters applied his business acumen to improving the financial soundness of a member-owned ski club to which his family belonged, and

Whereas, early retirement enabled Dick Walters to devote his attention to competitive sailing on Lake Erie and to pleasure cruising on both the Atlantic
and Pacific coasts and on the Great Lakes, and, during the past decade, on Lake Champlain, and

Whereas, Dick Walters will be best remembered as a strong proponent of Vermonters’ gaining the legal right to determine their own end-of-life choices, and this passion led to his cofounding Patient Choices Vermont (PCV), and

Whereas, through PCV, Dick Walters advocated successfully for the passage of an act relating to patient choice and control at end of life, and

Whereas, Dick Walters, who had been diagnosed with lung cancer, died peacefully, on his own terms, on October 16, 2015 at 90 years of age, and

Whereas, his survivors include his wife, Ginny; daughters, Nancy and Betsy; and three grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of Richard Walters, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ginny Walters in Shelburne.

H.C.R. 234.

House concurrent resolution honoring MacArthur Fellow Alison Bechdel of Bolton on her artistic and literary achievements

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Waterbury, Wood of Waterbury, Frank of Underhill, and Till of Jericho

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Baruth, Lyons, Sirotkin, Snelling, and Zuckerman

Whereas, it is rare for an author’s creative oeuvre to result in a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship and inspire a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, and

Whereas, Alison Bechdel of Bolton was raised in an artistic Pennsylvania family, filled with unusual family dynamics, including the premature death of her father that brought much sadness to her family, and

Whereas, a graduate of Oberlin College, Alison Bechdel embarked on a career combining her talents as a cartoonist and writer, and

Whereas, for 25 years, she drew the comic strip Dykes to Watch Out For, that commented on cultural and political trends from a lesbian perspective, and
Whereas, in 2006, her graphic memoir, Fun Home: A Tragicomic, was published, drawing on her superb observational skills and unique family history, and it has sold over a quarter-million copies, and

Whereas, in 2012, her second book-length volume, Are You My Mother? A Comic Drama, a psychoanalytic examination of the relationship the author had with her emotionally distant mother, was released, and

Whereas, her books brought Bechdel a new literary notoriety, and, in 2014, the MacArthur Foundation, recognizing her pioneering contributions to American arts and letters, awarded her a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, popularly referred to as a “genius grant,” and

Whereas, Fun Home enticed playwright Lisa Kron, composer Jeanine Tesori, and theater director Sam Gold to collaborate on a musical version of Bechdel’s 2006 memoir, and, in April 2015, the musical opened triumphantly on Broadway, and

Whereas, although Alison Bechdel cannot claim personal credit for the creation of the musical that has won an impressive five 2015 Tony Awards and drawn large audiences, she was a close observer of the creative process leading to opening night, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors MacArthur Fellow Alison Bechdel of Bolton on her artistic and literary achievements, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 235.

House concurrent resolution designating February 5, 2016 as Wear Red Day in Vermont


Offered by: Senator Lyons

Whereas, in the United States, heart disease and stroke kill one in three women, yet 80 percent of cardiac events may be preventable, and
Whereas, cardiovascular diseases and stroke kill one woman every 80 seconds, and they affect an estimated 44 million women nationwide, and

Whereas, women are less likely to call 911 for themselves when experiencing symptoms of a heart attack than they are to call 911 if someone else were experiencing such symptoms, and

Whereas, only 36 percent of African American women and 34 percent of Hispanic women know that heart disease is their greatest health risk, compared with 65 percent of Caucasian women who have this awareness, and

Whereas, women involved with the American Heart Association’s Go Red For Women movement live healthier lives, and nearly 90 percent have instituted at least one healthy behavior change, and

Whereas, Go Red For Women encourages women to take charge of their health and schedule a Well-Woman visit to learn about their personal health status and risk for diseases, and

Whereas, Go Red For Women is asking all Americans to Go Red by wearing red on February 5, 2016, and

Whereas, Go Red for Women encourages all Americans to take a set of preventative measures, including asking their doctor to check their blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose level; stopping smoking; reducing their weight; engaging in physical activity; and eating a healthful diet, and

Whereas, for the benefit of the younger generation, Go Red for Women urges parents to teach their children the importance of eating a healthful diet and staying active, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates February 5, 2016 as Wear Red Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont office of the American Heart Association-American Stroke Association.

H.C.R. 236.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Middlebury College Panthers National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Division III championship field hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Nuovo of Middlebury, Sheldon of Middlebury, Baser of Bristol, Eastman of Orwell, Jewett of Ripton, Lanpher of Vergennes, Sharpe of Bristol, Smith of New Haven, and Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh
Offered by: Senators Ayer and Bray

Whereas, the Middlebury College Panthers won the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) field hockey championship from 2012–2014, thrice defeating the Bowdoin College Polar Bears, and although Bowdoin clinched this title in 2015, greater glory awaited the Panthers at the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III field hockey championship played at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, and

Whereas, third-ranked Middlebury faced first-ranked Bowdoin for the prestigious 2015 NCAA title, and

Whereas, at the 25:45 mark of the first half, the Panthers scored the game’s only goal, capturing the NCAA Division III championship, their first since 1998, and

Whereas, the jubilant Panthers included Carson Peacock, Anna Kenyon, Molly Freeman, Audrey Quirk, Grace Jennings, Lauren Schewppe, Susanna Baker, Amanda Bozorgi, Fiona Sullivan, Pam Schulman, Lily Taub, Shannon Hutteman, Bridget Instrum, Jillian Green, Megan Mahoney, Caroline Knapp, Annie Leonard, Lauren Berestecky, Evangeline Dunphy, and Emily Miller, and

Whereas, Head Coach Katharine DeLorenzo and assistant coaches Meredith Rowe and Andrea Way inspired the team throughout the season and NESCAC and NCAA playoffs, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2015 Middlebury College Panthers National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Division III championship field hockey team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Middlebury College Department of Athletics.

H.C.R. 238.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont National Guard Specialist Skylar Anderson on becoming the first woman certified as a U.S. military combat engineer

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Ancel of Calais, Bancroft of Westford, Bartholomew of Hartland, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Berry of Manchester, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Briglin of Thetford, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of
Whereas, Skylar Anderson is a University of Vermont (UVM) junior and aspires to become a veterinarian, and

Whereas, in addition to her academic achievements, as a Vermont National Guard Specialist, Skylar Anderson is a uniquely accomplished and truly dedicated member of our nation’s military, and

Whereas, Skylar Anderson took her oath of military service while still a high school senior in Derry, New Hampshire, and she transferred from the New Hampshire to the Vermont National Guard on becoming a UVM student, and

Whereas, until 2013, no military role designated as combat was open to women, and U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter recently issued an historic decision allowing women to apply for all combat roles, and

Whereas, Specialist Skylar Anderson was seeking more challenging military service opportunities, and

Whereas, a supervisor suggested that Specialist Skylar Anderson attend the North Dakota National Guard’s 164th Regional Training Institute’s combat engineering training school in Devils Lake, North Dakota, that had only opened to women on August 1, 2015, and

Whereas, combat engineers must master dangerous and difficult battlefield skills, including clearing landmines, constructing bridges under fire, and building structures to halt an enemy’s advance, and

Whereas, Specialist Skylar Anderson was assessed in each task according to the same standards as a male Soldier, and

Whereas, the instructors did not inform Specialist Skylar Anderson and the other students in her class of her historic role as the first female candidate to seek combat engineer certification until the 16-day course was nearly concluded, and

Whereas, Specialist Skylar Anderson passed all the requirements, and the instructors were pleased to award her the combat engineer certification, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:
That the General Assembly congratulates Vermont National Guard Specialist Skylar Anderson on becoming the first woman certified as a U.S. military combat engineer, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont National Guard Specialist Skylar Anderson.

H.C.R. 239.

House concurrent resolution honoring Rip Jackson on his outstanding service as minister of music at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland

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

Offered by: Senator Flory

Whereas, as an Atlanta, Georgia high school student, Rip Jackson immersed himself in the performing arts, focusing on dance and choreography, and

Whereas, at the University of Florida, his artistic attention focused on music history and keyboard performance, including piano, harpsichord, and organ, and

Whereas, after his college graduation, he earned a master’s degree at Emory University, pursued doctoral studies at Case Western Reserve University, and studied with the Baroque music specialist and famed English conductor Christopher Hogwood, and

Whereas, for the past 15 years, as minister of music, Rip Jackson infused a joyful spirit into life at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland, and

Whereas, he conducted annual memorable performances of the Christmas portion of Handel’s Messiah that Rutlanders anticipated eagerly each year, and

Whereas, an unusual aspect of Rip Jackson’s musical ministry was the staging of musical theater productions at Rutland’s Paramount Theater, ranging from Miss Saigon to Leonard Bernstein’s MASS: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers, and

Whereas, in these community productions, Rip Jackson inspired professional and amateur musicians to blend and maximize their talents, and

Whereas, in the summer of 2015, Rip Jackson and Grace Congregational Church’s Rutland Area Choir presented a concert of British and American music, featuring works that were later sung on the choir’s European tour, and
Whereas, regrettably for musical life in Rutland, these 2015 musical events concluded Rip Jackson’s role as minister of music at Grace Congregational Church as he is now the new music director at the First Parish Church in Lexington, Massachusetts, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Rip Jackson on his outstanding service as minister of music at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland and extends best wishes for every success in his new musical home at the First Parish Church in Lexington, Massachusetts, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Rip Jackson at the First Parish Church in Lexington, Massachusetts and to Grace Congregational Church in Rutland.

H.C.R. 240.

House concurrent resolution designating February 11, 2016 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in Vermont


Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, approximately 100 Vermonters die of suicide each year, and 90 percent of these individuals were diagnosed with a possibly treatable mental illness, and

Whereas, suicide is the second leading cause of death among Vermonters 15 to 34 years of age and the third leading cause of death for those 35 to 44 years of age, and

Whereas, the Center for Health and Learning (CHL) in Brattleboro, including its Vermont Suicide Prevention Center and Vermont Suicide Prevention Coalition, is working to promote suicide prevention, and

Whereas, in his recent budget address, Governor Shumlin referred to the suicide death of a neighbor, explaining that his proposed increase in funding for the Vermont Suicide Prevention Center was intended to ensure help is available to others facing similar life challenges, and

Whereas, one ongoing project is Umatter for Schools, a two-day program that trains teams of school administrators, teachers, counselors, and nurses in order to establish a foundation for schools “to develop a comprehensive, asset-based approach to suicide prevention,” and

Whereas, current suicide prevention initiatives include the Zero Suicide program, part of a national effort that is “a commitment to suicide prevention in health and behavioral health care systems,” and

Whereas, another project is CAMS (Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality), which is based on a quarter-century of continuing research in clinical suicide prevention, and
Whereas, the Department of Mental Health is participating in Zero Suicide and also in a model CAMS program in northwestern Vermont, and

Whereas, the importance of suicide prevention programs will be highlighted in a presentation that the Vermont Suicide Prevention Coalition will make at the State House on Thursday, February 11, 2016, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates February 11, 2016 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send two copies of this resolution to the Center for Health and Learning.

H.C.R. 241.

House concurrent resolution honoring Dr. Donald and Elizabeth Bicknell for their many years of outstanding community service

Offered by: Representatives Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh and Lanpher of Vergennes

Whereas, Don Bicknell earned both his college and medical degrees at the University of Vermont, where as an undergraduate, he met his future wife, Liz, and

Whereas, they are the parents of David, Tim, Ann, Peter, and Paul, and they have many grandchildren, and

Whereas, after completing an internship and active duty military service as a U.S. Army physician, Dr. Don Bicknell become a family medicine practitioner in Vergennes, and

Whereas, until his retirement in 2012, Dr. Don Bicknell focused on the needs of his patients, always kept abreast of the latest medical developments, made house calls, and had a well-earned reputation for honesty and sincerity, and

Whereas, Liz Bicknell taught for 23 years at the Ferrisburgh Central School, and served as Vermont State President of both the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, which promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education, and the Women of Wisdom, a philanthropic group of 14 women that works to improves life in the towns of Addison, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Vergennes, and Waltham through projects in the arts, education, health and social services, women’s issues, and the environment, and
Whereas, Dr. Don Bicknell served on the UVM Medical School Admissions Committee, as an enthusiastic local musician, as a lay leader at the Vergennes United Methodist Church, and as State Surgeon in the Vermont Army National Guard, and

Whereas, for two decades, he has served as Ferrisburgh’s town and school district moderator, and

Whereas, he has presided fairly and wisely, maintaining parliamentary order, and allowing all points of view a fair hearing, and

Whereas, 2016 is Dr. Donald Bicknell’s final year wielding the Ferrisburgh town and school meeting gavel, and the Bicknells have served their community and State with dedication and distinction in many ways, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Dr. Donald and Elizabeth Bicknell for their many years of outstanding community service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Donald and Elizabeth Bicknell in Ferrisburgh.

S.C.R. 34.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring natural resources and transportation historian William G. Gove of Williamstown for his prodigious research and fascinating books

Whereas, in the 19th and into the 20th centuries, the rivers and railroads of northern New England and New York State, a geographic region commonly referred to as the North Country, served as the highway for the region’s thriving logging industry, and

Whereas, Bill Gove has developed great insight into the history of North Country logging and logging-related transportation, and

Whereas, he first worked as a forester in the timber industry, before accepting employment, in 1967, with the State of Vermont as a wood utilization forester, and

Whereas, since retiring from State service in the late 1980s, Bill Gove has devoted his time to a prodigious effort of researching, compiling documentation on, and writing informative books detailing the history of North Country logging and logging-related transportation, and

Whereas, until 1915, logs were floated hundreds of miles south on the Connecticut River, an industrial activity of sufficient importance to merit governance provisions in Vermont statutory law, and
Whereas, to celebrate this remarkable activity and the rugged loggers who made it possible, Bill Gove wrote *Log Drives on the Connecticut River*, and

Whereas, Bill Gove has examined, in great depth, locomotive logging transportation in the North Country, and

Whereas, his latest volume is entitled *Logging Along the Moose River: The Story of the Victory Branch Railroad*, and

Whereas, the New Hampshire-related books include: *Logging Railroads of New Hampshire’s North Country; J.E. Henry’s Logging Railroads: The History of the East Branch & Lincoln and Zealand Valley Railroads; and Logging Railroads Along the Pemigewasset River*, and

Whereas, the New York title is *Logging Railroads of the Adirondacks*, and

Whereas, closer to home, the Barre quarries’ railroad is the subject of his book *Sky Route to the Quarries: History of the Barre Railroad*, and

Whereas, Bill Gove’s books are a remarkable compilation of the North Country’s natural resource transportation history, now therefore be it

**Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:**

That the General Assembly honors natural resources and transportation historian William Gove for his prodigious research and fascinating books, and be it further

**Resolved:** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to William G. Gove.