CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

Text of House and Senate Concurrent Resolutions

of

February 18, 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. 242.**

House concurrent resolution recognizing the importance of the Black Lives Matter Movement in the U.S. and Vermont Black communities


Offered by: Senators Ashe, Balint, Campbell, Campion, Nitka, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Snelling, White, and Zuckerman

*Whereas*, the murder of Trayvon Martin on February 26, 2012 in Florida sparked outrage in the Black community, and
Whereas, a strong perception following this homicide that the nation placed a low value on the lives of Black Americans led Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi, and Patrisse Cullors to form the Black Lives Matter movement (BLM), and

Whereas, BLM was formed to affirm Black Americans’ humanity and resilience in the face of deadly oppression, and

Whereas, the killing of Michael Brown, 18 years of age, in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 9, 2014, ignited major growth in BLM, and

Whereas, the deaths of at least 102 unarmed Black Americans in 2015 reaffirmed the continuing crisis in the relationship between Black Americans and law enforcement officials, and

Whereas, BLM focuses its work on diversity, restorative justice, and being unapologetically Black, and

Whereas, the repeated incidents of violence against Black Americans have demonstrated the core reason that BLM was established, and

Whereas, BLM supporters in Vermont, who include members of all races, have stood in solidarity with this nationwide movement, and

Whereas, only 1.2 percent of Vermonters are Black and still face discrimination in many aspects of their daily lives, and

Whereas, the General Assembly has acknowledged the problems Black Vermonters encounter with public safety officials, and in 2012 and 2014, the General Assembly enacted legislation leading to the establishment of bias-free policing policies, and a greater law enforcement awareness and readiness to adopt those policies, and

Whereas, the Vermont Black Lives Matter movement has spurred a continuing dialogue to ensure that all Vermonters are guaranteed fundamental civil rights and equality, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the importance of the Black Lives Matter Movement in the U.S. and Vermont Black communities, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Shela Linton, Ebony Nyoni, and Mark Hughes.
H.C.R. 243.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 class of Green Mountain Council Eagle Boy Scouts


Offered by: Senators Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Benning, Bray, Campbell, Campion, Collamore, Cummings, Degree, Doyle, Flory, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Mullin, Nitka, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Snelling, Starr, Westman, White, and Zuckerman

Whereas, Eagle is the highest rank a Boy Scout can earn, and

Whereas, achieving the rank of Eagle requires commitment and perseverance, starting from the moment a young man is inducted into the Boy Scouts of America, and
Whereas, the myriad merit badges a Boy Scout must earn to reach this honor introduce him to many useful skills, and


Whereas, each new Eagle Scout and his family can be proud of this personal achievement and of the young man’s ability to reach a challenging goal, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates and extends best wishes to the 2015 class of Green Mountain Council Eagle Boy Scouts, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each Eagle Scout honored in this resolution.

H.C.R. 244.

House concurrent resolution honoring J. Morgans Steakhouse’s bartender, Roderick Vincent O’Brien, for his consummate professional and unfailing courtesy

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington, Baser of Bristol, Brennan of Colchester, Buxton of Tunbridge, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clarkson of Woodstock, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Hooper of
Montpelier, Juskievicz of Cambridge, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Komline of Dorset, Lewis of Berlin, Miller of Shaftsbury, O’Sullivan of Burlington, Scheuermann of Stowe, and Stuart of Brattleboro

Whereas, for 16 years, customers entering J. Morgans Steakhouse (J. Morgans), located in Montpelier’s Capitol Plaza Hotel, have come to appreciate the high work standards and the warm greeting of their favorite bartender, Roderick O’Brien, and

Whereas, successfully performing the role of a restaurant’s bartender, who in this instance is also acting as the bar customers’ waiter, can be a demanding responsibility, especially on a busy evening, such as when legislators are dining, and

Whereas, among Roderick O’Brien’s many attributes is an attentiveness to his customers’ requests, and

Whereas, his magnetic personality is ideally suited for someone employed in a customer service occupation, and

Whereas, Roderick O’Brien has no rival among his J. Morgans’ colleagues for remembering a customer’s libation and menu preferences, and

Whereas, his knowledge of the sporting world is undeniably impressive, and

Whereas, his friends and customers comment on Roderick O’Brien’s possessing the world’s biggest heart, and

Whereas, he is the father of Peter Jeffery, who is five years of age, and a younger son, Roderick Jonathan, who has celebrated his fourth birthday, and

Whereas, Roderick O’Brien has an enthusiastic fan club, but he is concluding his tenure behind J. Morgans bar to pursue a new career in food sales, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors J. Morgans Steakhouse’s bartender, Roderick O’Brien, for his consummate professional and unfailing courtesy, and wishes him all the best as he embarks on a new employment opportunity, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Roderick O’Brien.
H.C.R. 245.

House concurrent resolution honoring former Juvenile Defender Robert Sheil for his exemplary public service

Offered by: Representatives Jewett of Ripton, Burditt of West Rutland, Conquest of Newbury, Frank of Underhill, Grad of Moretown, LaLonde of South Burlington, Martel of Waterford, Nuovo of Middlebury, Rachelson of Burlington, Strong of Albany, and Viens of Newport City

Whereas, all Vermonters accused of illegal conduct, including juveniles whose families cannot afford private counsel, are entitled to a complete and vigorous defense in court, and

Whereas, in court, the Juvenile Division of the Office of the Defender General represents juveniles in the custody of the Department for Children and Families, and

Whereas, for many years, the senior Juvenile Defender and supervising attorney for the Division was Bob Sheil, an attorney devoted to assuring that juveniles accused of offenses receive fair treatment in the courtroom, and

Whereas, Bob Sheil was a member of the third class to graduate from Vermont Law School, and

Whereas, after graduation, he worked as a private practitioner and served briefly in the Office of the Washington County State’s Attorney, and

Whereas, Bob Sheil soon realized juvenile defense work was his true calling, and in 1988, he assumed the post of Juvenile Defender, a role he performed admirably, and

Whereas, he combined a solid legal knowledge and a sense of compassion when defending youngsters in court, and

Whereas, Bob Sheil brought his courtroom expertise and broad familiarity with juvenile justice issues to many professional committees, including service on the Board of the New England Juvenile Defender Center, and

Whereas, his concern for the well-being of children, especially those living with difficult economic or family conditions, prompted his membership on the Board of Voices for Vermont’s Children, where he continues to serve, and

Whereas, after 27 years as Vermont’s esteemed Juvenile Defender, Bob Sheil has concluded his legal career in the Office of the Defender General, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:
That the General Assembly honors former Juvenile Defender Robert Sheil
for his exemplary public service, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 246.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative
Barbara L. Wood of Bethel

Offered by: Representatives Haas of Rochester, Dakin of Colchester, Deen
of Westminster, Emmons of Springfield, French of Randolph, Kitzmiller of
Montpelier, McCormack of Burlington, Nuovo of Middlebury, Pugh of South
Burlington, Sullivan of Burlington, and Townsend of South Burlington

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack, Nitka, Doyle, MacDonald,
Mazza, Snelling, and Westman

Whereas, Barbara Wood was a respected civic leader in the town of
Bethel, and

Whereas, she graduated from Rochester High School; the former
Mary Hitchcock Hospital’s nursing school in Hanover, New Hampshire; and
Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, at the conclusion of World War II, Barbara Wood served as a
second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, and

Whereas, from 1950–1955, she was employed as a registered nurse at
Gifford Memorial Hospital in Randolph, and later she served as a hospital
trustee, and

Whereas, in 1963, Barbara Wood was elected to the Bethel School Board,
on which she served conscientiously for 22 years, and

Whereas, her effectiveness as a school board member convinced Bethel area
voters to send her to Montpelier to represent them in the House of
Representatives, where she would serve honorably for seven consecutive
terms, and

Whereas, Barbara Wood’s extensive familiarity with public education
resulted in her appointment to the House Committee on Education, and her
legislative tenure twice included service as the committee’s vice chair
(1983-1984) and (1987–1988) and, one term on the House Committee on
Health and Welfare, and
Whereas, she was a sponsor and strong supporter of 1985 Acts and Resolves No. 71, the law that established universal access to kindergarten in Vermont, and

Whereas, her continuing interest in public education resulted in her serving on the Vermont Higher Education Planning Commission, the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges, and the Education Commission of the States, and

Whereas, Barbara Wood’s long and fulfilling life ended with her death on November 7, 2015, and survivors include her children, Craig, Brian, Dennis, and Joan; Joann, the widow of Barbara Wood’s late son, Gary; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of former Representative Barbara L. Wood of Bethel, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of Barbara Wood’s children and to her daughter-in-law.

H.C.R. 247.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Rutland Regional Medical Center on its receipt of two excellence awards from Healthgrades

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

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC), an affiliate of Rutland Regional Health Services, provides ambulatory and inpatient care for the residents of Rutland County and adjacent areas, and

Whereas, Healthgrades is an online resource offering assessments of the quality of care at hospitals nationwide, and

Whereas, based on the 2015 data it gathered, Healthgrades designated the RRMC as the recipient of two awards, one for patient safety excellence and a second for outstanding patient experience, and

Whereas, for the past three years, Healthgrades has ranked RRMC among the top 10 percent of hospitals nationally for patient safety, and
Whereas, the patient safety award was premised on 13 criteria, and

Whereas, hospitals honored with this safety award experience fewer instances of accidental punctures or lacerations in a procedure or of collapsed lungs due to a procedure or surgery, and pressure and bed sores are fewer, and

Whereas, in awarding RRMC the patient experience award, Healthgrades cited the hospital’s outstanding performance in the delivery of a positive experience for patients during their hospital stay, and

Whereas, the determination that RRMC offers a high quality patient experience was based on a 27-question survey of the hospital’s patients, and

Whereas, an important question on the survey was whether a patient would recommend RRMC to a family member or friend, and

Whereas, the medical and administrative staffs at RRMC are extremely proud of the hospital’s receipt of these coveted awards that reflect admirably on the quality of local health care in Rutland County, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Rutland Regional Medical Center on its receipt of two excellence awards from Healthgrades, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Rutland Regional Medical Center.

S.C.R. 35.

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Matt Hynes on being named the 2015-2016 Vermont boys’ cross country Gatorade Player of the Year

Whereas, the Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA Today High School Sports, selects outstanding female and male high school athletes, in every state and the District of Columbia, as Gatorade Players of the Year, and

Whereas, for the 2015–2016 school year, for the sport of boys’ cross country, the Vermont Gatorade Player of the Year is Montpelier High School junior Matt Hynes, and

Whereas, Matt Hynes is a speedy runner, who won major cross country events during the 2015 season, including the individual titles at the Northern Vermont Athletic Conference Mountain Division meet and at the Burlington Invitational, and

Whereas, at the 2015 State championship in Thetford, Matt Hynes was at his best, winning the individual Division II title with an impressive course time of 16:59, and
Whereas, his State championship run enabled the Montpelier Solons to clinch the 2015 Division II team title, and

Whereas, the Solons’ cross country coach describes Matt Hynes as a coach’s dream, and

Whereas, Matt Hynes is a studious young man, who has a 3.39 grade average, and

Whereas, he volunteers at a local homeless shelter and in environmental preservation activities, and

Whereas, Matt Hynes is an ideal choice for designation as one of Vermont’s 2015 Gatorade Players of the Year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Matt Hynes on being named the 2015–2016 Vermont boys’ cross country Gatorade Player of the Year, and be it further

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

S.C.R. 36.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce President and CEO George Malek

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.