

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House Concurrent  
Resolutions**

**of**

**April 7, 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. 316.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Zachariah Fike and his Purple Hearts Reunited organization

Offered by: Representatives Strong of Albany, Branagan of Georgia, and Morrissey of Bennington

Whereas, Zachariah Fike of Georgia, Vermont, is a full-time member of the Vermont National Guard, having served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and his family's military service history dates to the Revolutionary War, and

Whereas, in 2009, his mother gave him someone else's Purple Heart medal as a Christmas gift, and although an avid collector of military memorabilia, he decided immediately to reunite the medal with its rightful owner, and

Whereas, although Zachariah Fike was deployed to Afghanistan a few days later, upon his return, now a Purple Heart recipient himself, and after much research, he returned the medal to the sister of the deceased World War II soldier to whom the Christmas gift Purple Heart originally belonged, and

Whereas, in 2012, as a result of this medal-returning experience, he established Purple Hearts Reunited (PHR), a nonprofit organization with a mission "to return lost or stolen military medals of valor to veterans or their families in order to honor their sacrifice to the nation," and

Whereas, medals are found in storage containers, pawn shops, and even trash receptacles, and

Whereas, PHR maintains an online database of missing medal owners, and

Whereas, some medals arrive unsolicited, and in other cases PHR has purchased the medal, and

Whereas, including purchasing, refurbishing, and framing the medal, as well as PHR's return ceremony, a typical return costs \$1,200.00, and

Whereas, the return ceremony is a dignified event at which a representative of the Military Order of the Purple Heart often offers historical remarks, and

Whereas, should it be impossible to return the medal to the wounded recipient or the soldier's family, PHR then arranges for permanent placement in a dignified home such as a museum, and

Whereas, Zachariah Fike has spent \$50,000.00 of his own funds for this cause, although PHR is conducting fundraising activities, and

Whereas, as of late-March 2016, PHR has returned 200 medals and is working on finding the home of over 300 others, an endeavor in which Zachariah Fike can take great pride, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Zachariah Fike and his Purple Hearts Reunited organization, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Zachariah Fike in Georgia.

**H.C.R. 317.**

House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence on its 30th anniversary

Offered by: Representative Grad of Moretown

Whereas, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (VT Network) was established in 1986, and

Whereas, it is composed of 14 member programs serving and supporting more than 8,500 people in an effort to halt domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking throughout Vermont, and

Whereas, the VT Network is the statewide leader seeking the end of these unacceptable forms of personal behavior, and it works in partnership with other organizations, and

Whereas, it has been instrumental in the passage of both State and federal laws that benefit victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking, and

Whereas, the VT Network strives for "a world free of oppression where actions, beliefs, and systems support all people to thrive," now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors and celebrates the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence in recognition of the organization's exceptional commitment to community and individual safety in Vermont and advocacy work on behalf of these causes, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

**H.C.R. 318.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Agency of Transportation on receiving a \$10 million federal Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery grant to help complete the western rail corridor from Rutland to Burlington

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, Baser of Bristol, Bissonnette of Winooski, Brennan of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cole of Burlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donovan of Burlington, Eastman of Orwell, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Frank of Underhill, Gage of Rutland City, Gonzalez of Winooski, Head of South Burlington, Helm of Fair Haven, Jerman of Essex, Keenan of St. Albans City, Krowinski of Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lenes of Shelburne, McCormack of Burlington, McCoy of Poultney, Nuovo of Middlebury, Pearson of Burlington, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Shaw of Pittsford, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sullivan of Burlington, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Webb of Shelburne, Wright of Burlington, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, passenger rail service between Rutland and Burlington was halted in 1953, and in recent years, interest has existed in restoring this transportation service, and

Whereas, a prerequisite for Amtrak to extend the existing Ethan Allen train from its current terminus in Rutland north to Burlington is the installation of welded rail along the entire 67-mile distance, and

Whereas, the incremental progress towards implementing this infrastructure improvement has left only 11 miles of track updating to complete, and

Whereas, the projected cost to finish all required aspects of the project is \$26 million, including the construction of station platforms, and

Whereas, the Vermont Agency of Transportation applied for a \$12 million federal Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant to move the project towards conclusion, and

Whereas, in the fall of 2015, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded Vermont a \$10 million TIGER grant, and

Whereas, although short of the requested sum, securing the \$10 million TIGER grant is a major step towards arranging for the balance of the needed monies, and

Whereas, the hope for completing the financing package includes utilizing \$3 million in federal highway funds to address road crossing problems and \$13 million in additional State funds, and

Whereas, although the inauguration of the extended Ethan Allen service is still several years in the future, State transportation officials and rail enthusiasts celebrated this important milestone in the restoration of intercity passenger rail service to Vermont's Queen City, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulating the Vermont Agency of Transportation on receiving a \$10 million federal Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery grant to help complete the western rail corridor from Rutland to Burlington, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Transportation and the Vermont Rail Action Network.

### **H.C.R. 319.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 College of St. Joseph Lady Saints United States Collegiate Athletic Association Division II championship women's basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Terenzini of Rutland Town, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Condon of Colchester, Cupoli of Rutland City, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Krebs of South Hero, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lucke of Hartford, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, Parent of St. Albans Town, Purvis of Colchester, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Sheldon of Middlebury, Strong of Albany, Tate of Mendon, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Degree, Flory, Mullin, and Nitka

Whereas, although perhaps not as well-known as other Vermont college athletic teams, the 2016 College of St. Joseph (CSJ) Lady Saints women's basketball squad recently completed a memorable season, and

Whereas, this talented group of basketball players surmounted nearly every obstacle it encountered and defeated all its opponents, other than an NCAA Division I team, concluding with an amazing 31–1 record, and

Whereas, the highlight of the Lady Saints' 2015–2016 season was winning the United States Collegiate Athletic Association's (USCAA) Division II women's basketball championship game in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, where CSJ defeated Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences 73–46 and executed a USCAA championship game record 20 steals, and

Whereas, the remarkable team included Shamari Brodhead, Chontayvia Kennedy, Arreonte Anderson, Regina Steele, Jazsala Laracuenta, Nia Gilchrist, Elizabeth Turco, and Kelly Festa, and

Whereas, Coach Chris Wood and Assistant Coach Ebony Jones brought their extensive basketball experience front and center as they led the Lady Saints to a historic championship, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 College of St. Joseph Lady Saints United States Collegiate Athletic Association Division II championship women's basketball team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the director of athletics at the College of St. Joseph.

### **H.C.R. 320.**

House concurrent resolution designating April 5, 2016 as National Service Day in Vermont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is “a federal agency that helps more than 5 million Americans improve the lives of their fellow citizens through service,” and

Whereas, among the guiding principles of CNCS are to “put the needs of local communities first” and to “help rural and economically distressed communities obtain access to public and private resources,” and

Whereas, the Vermont Commission on National and Community Service (SerVermont) is the State's partner with CNCS, and

Whereas, in Vermont, there are currently a total of 25 CNCS projects, including those under the rubric of AmeriCorps (AmeriCorps National,

AmeriCorps State Competitive, AmeriCorps State Formula, and AmeriCorps VISTA); Senior Corps (Senior Corps, Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and Senior Companion Program); projects financed through the Social Innovation Fund; and miscellaneous programs, and

Whereas, there are 542 service locations statewide, including conservation and environmental organizations, counseling services, faith-based entities, food-support services, housing trusts, municipalities, museums, public libraries, recreation projects, senior and aging programs, and shelters for the homeless, and

Whereas, 2,242 Vermont service volunteers are working at these organizations, earning for their future use \$1,625,617.00 in educational scholarship funds, and

Whereas, in this fiscal year, CNCS is investing \$6,090,478.00 in Vermont; and local host organizations are supplying \$4,222,642.00; including \$334,372.00 of State funds, and

Whereas, for every federal dollar spent on national service, two dollars in other federal programs is saved, and four dollars' worth of benefits are sent to local communities, and

Whereas, today, April 5, 2016, service volunteers are visiting the State House, and their good works are highly commendable, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates April 5, 2016 as National Service Day in Vermont, and be it further

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

#### **H.C.R. 321.**

House concurrent resolution commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of the former Concord Corner Congregational Church building

Offered by: Representative Quimby of Concord

Whereas, on January 7, 1807, 17 individuals in the town of Concord organized a Congregational church, and

Whereas, on September 7, 1809, the congregation ordained the Rev. Samuel Goddard as its first pastor in an outdoor ceremony that attracted attendees from adjoining towns and featured the preaching of the Rev. Joseph Lee of Royalston, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, the pivotal event in the history of the Concord Corner Congregational Church occurred in 1816 when the congregation's magnificent new home was constructed, and

Whereas, the congregation selected a site on the hilltop that, at the time, served as the town's commercial and civic center and is now known as Concord Corner, and

Whereas, this impressive ecclesiastical edifice cost \$3,000.00 to build, a large amount for the second decade of the 19th century, and

Whereas, at the behest of one of the construction project's most generous donors, a Mrs. Azarius Williams, the new home of the Concord Corner Congregational Church was modeled on an existing church located in New York City, and

Whereas, a special element of this new center for worship was the installation of a "very excellent bell" described in a contemporary account as "the first in all the region," and

Whereas, on March 4, 1823, Mr. Samuel Hall, a licentiate of the Worcester County (Massachusetts) Association was ordained as the church's new pastor, and

Whereas, in accordance with his condition for accepting the Concord Corner pulpit, the Rev. Samuel Hall established a normal school or seminary that, according to the University of Vermont, was the first in the nation for training teachers, and

Whereas, during the Rev. Samuel Hall's tenure, which ended in 1830, the congregation prospered, adding 48 new members, and

Whereas, subsequent religious leadership included Mr. Solon Martin, the Rev. John Wooster, and the Rev. Josiah Morse, but as the commercial center of Concord shifted to the west, this glorious house of worship closed its doors and is no longer standing, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the bicentennial anniversary of the former Concord Corner Congregational Church building, and be it further

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



## H.C.R. 322.

House concurrent resolution commemorating former President Calvin Coolidge's historic 1928 presidential trip to Cuba

Offered by: Representatives Devereux of Mount Holly, Russell of Rutland City, Branagan of Georgia, Clarkson of Woodstock, and Townsend of South Burlington

Whereas, President Obama recently became the first sitting president to visit Cuba since President Coolidge traveled to the nearby island nation in 1928, and

Whereas, each man, in the final year of his presidency, sought and is seeking to improve the tense diplomatic climate between the United States and Cuba, and

Whereas, unlike President Obama, who flew aboard Air Force One for a relatively brief flight, President Coolidge traveled on the presidential railcar to Key West, Florida, where he boarded the U.S. Navy's battleship *Texas* for the ocean voyage to Havana, and

Whereas, President Obama has traveled extensively abroad, but the Cuban sojourn was Coolidge's sole presidential trip beyond our nation's borders, and

Whereas, each president traveled with his wife, and President Obama's daughters also accompanied him, and

Whereas, President Coolidge received an enthusiastic welcome, met with Cuban President Gerardo Machado y Morales, and delivered an address to the Pan-American Congress that was meeting in Havana, and

Whereas, President Obama was greeted with a red carpet ceremony, met with Cuban President Raúl Castro, and delivered a major policy speech in Havana's Grand Theater, where President Coolidge had spoken, and

Whereas, 2016 is an ideal year to recollect President Calvin Coolidge's historic 1928 journey to Cuba, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates former President Calvin Coolidge's historic 1928 presidential trip to Cuba, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Calvin Coolidge Foundation and to President Obama.

### H.C.R. 323.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 U-32 High School Raiders Division II championship boys' ice hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Klein of East Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, Donahue of Northfield, Lewis of Berlin, Patt of Worcester, and Smith of Morristown

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Doyle, and Pollina

Whereas, after nearly capturing the Division II crown in 2015, the U-32 Raiders boys' ice hockey team sought to earn the 2016 championship, and

Whereas, the Raiders were once again a top-notch squad and were ranked as the second-seeded team in the playoffs, and

Whereas, once again, U-32 gained a Division II championship game berth, in which the 2014 and 2015 consecutive Division II champions—the other Raiders, from Stowe High School—were U-32's challenging opponents, and

Whereas, although Stowe held a two-goal lead as the third period opened and seem destined for a third consecutive Division II title, the Raiders of U-32 fought back with three third-period goals, winning this thrilling game 3–2 and taking home the 2016 Division II crown, and

Whereas, the U-32 Raiders, whose late surge led to a great victory, included Connor Carbo, Liam Robert, Ryan Andreoletti, Jared Vincent, Conor Barrett, Tyler Cain, David Woolaver, Brendan Marineau, Nick Grace, Matt Hynes, Lucas Eldred, Tony Rowell, Zach LaGue, Owen Guthrie, Malone Bruce, Colby Brochu, Brady Hill, Kolby Tanner, Luca Montore, Dalton James, Rory Hynes, and Griffin O'Neill, and

Whereas, Head Coach Dave Pickel, assistant coaches Jeff Mugford, Craig Marineau, and Shane O' Neill, and strength and conditioning coach Steve McKinstry were great mentors, and managers Ethan Eldred and Maxx Perry were always of assistance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 U-32 High School Raiders Division II championship boys' ice hockey team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to U-32 High School.

### H.C.R. 324.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 Bellows Free Academy–St. Albans Bobwhites Division I championship boys’ hockey team

Offered by: Representatives Parent of St. Albans Town, Keenan of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Branagan of Georgia, Fiske of Enosburgh, and Savage of Swanton

Offered by: Senator Degree

Whereas, the first-seeded Bellows Free Academy–St. Albans (BFA) Bobwhites boys’ hockey team was ready to meet the second-seeded Essex High Hornets on the ice at the University of Vermont’s Gutterson Fieldhouse for the Division I championship, and

Whereas, while good defensive play was a key Bobwhite component, the BFA victory hinged on two goals, one with 3:43 remaining in the first period and a second at the 10:51 mark of the second period, that resulted in the 2–0 BFA victory and the Division I championship, and

Whereas, the many BFA fans and alumni returned home with pride and elation, and

Whereas, the 2016 championship marks a State record as the 17th time the Bobwhites have won the Division I crown, and

Whereas, the Bobwhites roster included Sean Hengemuhle, Keegan Streeter, Owen Hungerford, Sam Shorey, Matt Needleman, Owen Ladd, Kyle Cioffi, Bryant Boissonneault, Alex Grismore, Tanner Cioffi, Collin Manahan, Ethan Bonnette, Hunter Kirouac, Zak Savage, Noah Rouleau, Isaac Cioffi, Hayden Fersing, AJ Allen, Hunter Laroe, Noah Walsh, Connor Wood, Logan Lanfear, Ben Thibault, Ben Lovelette, Colby Brouillette, Mark Howrigan, Cooper Cioffi, and Noah Vincelette, and

Whereas, Head Coach Toby Ducolon and assistant coaches Tom McDonald, Jon Haynes, Jon Malboeuf, Josh Corrigan, and Kevin Hurlbut were great teachers, and team managers Ian Manahan and Isaac Walsh were always helpful when called upon for assistance, now therefore be it, and

Whereas, *the Burlington Free Press* stated correctly “the sum of those efforts delivered one more win for this winter’s team to beat, one more championship for Vermont’s gold-standard program,” now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 Bellows Free Academy–St. Albans Bobwhites Division I championship boys’ hockey team, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 325.**

House concurrent resolution recognizing all Vermont firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical service (EMS) personnel for the professional level of service they provide to their communities

Offered by: Representatives Turner of Milton, Savage of Swanton, and Shaw of Pittsford

Whereas, all volunteer firefighters, paid-on-call firefighters, full-time firefighters, part-time and full-time police officers, and EMS personnel perform their duties in a professional manner, and

Whereas, firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel are outstanding public servants who are committed to protecting life, property, and the environment in their communities and throughout the State of Vermont, and

Whereas, successful recruiting, retaining, and protecting of all firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel are essential to the long-term well-being of the communities they serve, and

Whereas, Vermonters respect and deeply appreciate the efforts and sacrifices of firefighters, police officers, EMS personnel, and their families, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the outstanding work of firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel who work to protect life, property, and the environment throughout the State of Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont State Firefighters Association, to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, to the Professional Firefighters of Vermont, to the Chiefs of Police Association of Vermont, and to the Vermont Ambulance Association.

### **H.C.R. 326.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the American Tree Farm System on its 75th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Browning of Arlington, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Clarkson of Woodstock, Connor of Fairfield, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount

Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donovan of Burlington, Eastman of Orwell, Feltus of Lyndon, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Jewett of Ripton, Krebs of South Hero, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Masland of Thetford, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Patt of Worcester, Pearce of Richford, Quimby of Concord, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Sheldon of Middlebury, Smith of New Haven, Stevens of Waterbury, Sweaney of Windsor, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Toleno of Brattleboro, Troiano of Stannard, Webb of Shelburne, Woodward of Johnson, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, forests cover one-third of the land in the United States, provide Vermonters and all Americans with clean drinking water; clean air; abundant wildlife habitat; renewable wood for buildings, furniture, energy, and paper; recreation; and good paying jobs, and

Whereas, most of our country's forests are under the ownership of individuals and families—the citizens of our nation, and

Whereas, 75 years ago, the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) was founded to help family and individual woodland owners sustain their forests and the benefits we all receive from them, and

Whereas, with more than 500 individuals and families, who combined own more than 140,000 acres in Vermont, the ATFS remains a strong and essential program today to conserve our State's forests and their benefits, especially in the face of growing pressures such as wildfires, insects, diseases, and development pressures, and

Whereas, tree farmers invest time, manpower, and personal funds to practice sustainable forestry management on their land for all Vermonters' mutual benefit, and

Whereas, volunteers from the Vermont Woodlands Association, the Vermont Tree Farm Committee, conservation organizations, the University of Vermont Extension, forest products companies, and the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation all provide volunteer services that make ATFS possible, and

Whereas, the General Assembly has a history of supporting the State's family forests and woodland owners, and

Whereas, June 12, 2016 marks the 75th anniversary of ATFS, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates June 12, 2016 as American Tree Farm System Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That to commemorate this event, Vermonters are encouraged to participate in ceremonies and activities that recognize the importance of family-owned forests and the many resources they provide for Vermonters and all Americans, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the American Tree Farm System.

### **H.C.R. 327.**

House concurrent resolution honoring the entrepreneurship of Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice in Mendon

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City and Tate of Mendon

Whereas, the former Mendon homestead of General Edward H. Ripley, who during the Civil War served as Commander of the First Brigade of Rutland's Light Guards, is now the headquarters of a special destination, Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice, and

Whereas, after the Union victory, General Ripley returned to Mendon with his loyal horse "Old John," and

Whereas, the Ripley family, which was a leader in Vermont's marble industry, established a sugaring operation, and today, the old sugarhouse, a small horse barn, the larger maple trees, and a large rock on which are engraved the words "The Grave of Genl. Edw. H. Ripley's 'Old John,' A Gallant War Horse of the Great Civil War 1861-1865," remain, and

Whereas, there are many sugarhouses scattered across the Green Mountains, but Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice is certainly exciting for the visitor, and

Whereas, the central focus of the business is a modern two-story pavilion featuring an open gallery and has a second-floor balcony from which visitors can view the boiling of maple sap and the production of syrup, and

Whereas, Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice takes great pride in producing the finest maple syrup possible, and it continues to tap its trees in the traditional manner, using buckets, and

Whereas, in its kitchen, Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice produces maple candy, starting with pure maple syrup heated to 239°F, and never coats or crystalizes its candy, as these processes tend to destroy the maple bouquet, and

Whereas, another delectable delicacy made and sold at Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice is its homemade ice cream, manufactured in the traditional

manner in wooden buckets, and the natural ingredients include pure Vermont cream and maple syrup, and

Whereas, Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice offers an attractive breakfast and luncheon menu in its dining room, and customers are able to draw off their own hot maple syrup, making pancakes and waffles extra delicious, and

Whereas, in 2016, the current management is celebrating 10 years of successfully leading the 34-year-old Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the entrepreneurship of Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice in Mendon, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Maple Sugar & Vermont Spice in Mendon.

**H.C.R. 328.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 U-32 High School Division II girls' championship Nordic ski team

Offered by: Representatives Klein of East Montpelier, Ancel of Calais, Donahue of Northfield, Lewis of Berlin, Patt of Worcester, and Smith of Morristown

Whereas, in a winter often lacking for snow, the U-32 Raiders Nordic girls' ski team took advantage of every snowflake to prepare for the all-important two-day State championship, and

Whereas, the Raiders have a history of strong second-place finishes at the State championship but in 2016 were truly prepared to go all the way for the top slot, and

Whereas, the freestyle first day of competition concluded with the Raiders holding an 18-point lead; and on the second day, four top-11 placements in the individual classic competition and a victory in the classic relay resulted in the Raiders soundly defeating second place Woodstock on a rounded score of 72 to 106 for the first Raider championship in seven years, and

Whereas, the hardworking and thrilled 2016 U-32 girl Nordic skiers included Jesse Colnes, Kaylyn Crompton, Emma Curchin, Anna Davis-Noe, Charlotte Harris, Ruby Lamb, Cricket Liebermann, Eliza Merrylees, Audrey Oliver, Alexandra Reilly, Rena Schwartz, Rebecca Thompson, Lucille Wood, and

Whereas, coaches Mark Chaplin, Kathy Topping, Andrew Tripp, and Tim Flynn were all helpful to the skiers throughout the 2015–2016 Nordic season, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 U-32 High School Division II girls' championship Nordic ski team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to U-32 High School.

### **H.C.R. 329.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont Law School on the inauguration of its solar energy project

Offered by: Representative Buxton of Tunbridge

Whereas, in 1978, Vermont Law School (VLS) established its Environmental Law Center (ELC), and over the past 26 years, the magazine *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked VLS as the home of the nation's top environmental law program on 18 occasions, including "for 2017," and

Whereas, in recent years, VLS has focused on the interaction of environmental and energy policy through the establishment of an Institute for Energy and the Environment (IEE) with a mission "to have fewer greenhouse gas emissions in 50 years because of the work we do today," and

Whereas, in 2014, IEE established the Energy Clinic, a full-year law clinic that is focused on solar development and especially models that advance community solar ownership, and

Whereas, through the recently completed construction of a 500-kilowatt solar photovoltaic project on Gee Hill Road in South Royalton, VLS has taken the goal of eliminating greenhouse gas emissions to heart as part of the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment, and

Whereas, students in the Energy Clinic played a major role in the legal work leading to the construction of this renewable energy project that will supply over one-half of VLS's electric energy requirements and reduce the school's carbon footprint, and

Whereas, VLS evaluated seven proposals in a competitive solicitation process and entered into an agreement with a local solar company that built and will own and operate the project, and

Whereas, the school will purchase all of the project's net metering and renewable energy credits and will also retire the renewable energy credits to



guarantee that the solar energy generated will reduce both the school's and the State's carbon footprints, and

Whereas, the solar panels are elevated four feet above the ground to enable sheep to graze on the site, creating a unique and commendable combination of agricultural landscape preservation and renewable energy production, and

Whereas, representatives of VLS are visiting the State House today, April 6, 2016, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Vermont Law School on the inauguration of its solar energy project, and be it further

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