

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

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.