

No. R-17. Senate concurrent resolution honoring former Senator William T. Doyle and designating March 7, 2017 as “Bill Doyle Town Meeting Day”.

(S.C.R.1)

By All Members of the Senate,

By All Members of the House,

Whereas, in 1958, equipped with degrees from Princeton and Columbia universities, William T. “Bill” Doyle began his ongoing tenure as a Johnson State College faculty member, specializing in Vermont politics, and

Whereas, as an historian, Bill Doyle authored and regularly updated his book *The Vermont Political Tradition: And Those Who Helped Make It*, and by capturing a global audience showed how civil engagement is conducted “the Vermont Way,” and

Whereas, through his work as a college professor at Johnson State College, Bill Doyle has educated hundreds of Vermonters on government and politics, helping to ignite the call to public service in many who have gone on to serve the State and Nation, and

Whereas, parallel to his role as an academic, Bill Doyle embraced a political life: first serving on the Montpelier School Board, which he chaired, and since Election Day in 1968, serving in the Vermont State Senate, and

Whereas, Senator Doyle’s constituents reelected him 23 times, establishing the Senate’s longevity service record of 48 consecutive years, rightfully earning him the title of “Dean of the Vermont State Senate”, and

Whereas, as a Senator, he chaired the Committee on Government Operations, served on both the Joint and Senate Rules Committees, was the third member of the Committee on Committees, and was the Senate Minority Leader, and

Whereas, throughout his Senate career, Senator Doyle exhibited the utmost decorum and respect for his colleagues and the process and his insightful comments and input improved the legislative process, and

Whereas, Senator Doyle’s accomplishments on behalf of his constituents and the Citizens of Vermont are numerous and immeasurable and his unparalleled constituent services over his illustrious career of 48 years have improved the lives of countless Vermonters and the Citizens of Washington County, and

Whereas, a unique confluence of Senator Doyle’s academic and political careers started early in his Senate career when he created a Town Meeting Day Poll to gauge the positions of Vermonters on issues of current events, providing a useful survey of public policy opinions used by legislators, the media and Vermont citizens, and

Whereas, many political leaders have praised Senator Doyle for his roles as an insightful legislative leader and civic educator, and

Whereas, the reputation of Vermont in general has been greatly enhanced by services too numerous to mention of this true and faithful son, and

Whereas, no greater tribute could be paid to this remarkable Vermonter than designating March 7, 2017 as Bill Doyle Town Meeting Day, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Senator William T. Doyle for his unparalleled Senate career and designates March 7, 2017 as Bill Doyle Town Meeting Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to former Senator William T. "Bill" Doyle.