

No. R-153. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 240th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington.

(H.C.R.119)

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Morris of Bennington, and Devereux of Mount Holly

Offered by: Senators Sears and Campion

Whereas, in the summer of 1777, two brigades of British forces, under the command of British General John Burgoyne, were seeking to isolate New England militarily from the rest of the United States, and

Whereas, Burgoyne's forces, having suffered a tactical loss to American forces at the Battle of Hubbardton, were marching southbound toward Saratoga, New York, and a decisive defeat to come in October 1777, and

Whereas, more immediately, in need of military stores and general supplies, the British, who had support from German mercenaries, American Indians, and loyalists, learned of a supply depot in Bennington and headed in that direction, and

Whereas, the Council of Safety of the newly established Republic of Vermont sought to halt this British advance and solicited military support from the State of New Hampshire, and

Whereas, Continental Army Brigadier General John Stark lead local independence forces in this effort, and

Whereas, on August 16, 1777, General Stark led a combined contingent of soldiers from Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire that twice defeated the British, the second time with the welcomed assistance of Vermonters Seth Warner and the Green Mountain Boys, and

Whereas, the Battle of Bennington, an important milestone on the road to American independence, is commemorated as an annual State holiday, and 2017 marks this battle's 240th anniversary, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 240th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Historical Society, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, and the Bennington Town Clerk.