

No. R-206. House concurrent resolution honoring Lila M. Richardson on the completion of her distinguished career as a Vermont Legal Aid attorney.

(H.C.R.167)

Offered by: Representative Yacovone of Morristown

Whereas, the focus of Lila Richardson's tenure as a Vermont Legal Aid attorney has been an unwavering commitment to applying the law as a means for improving social justice, and

Whereas, before embarking on her career at Vermont Legal Aid in 1978, Lila Richardson graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Radcliffe College and earned her law degree at New York University School of Law, and

Whereas, Lila Richardson worked at four Vermont Legal Aid offices on the Senior Citizens Law Project, the Disability Law Project, and in the Office of the Health Care Advocate, representing Vermonters in a wide variety of State and federal administrative and judicial proceedings, supervising other Legal Aid attorneys, and providing legal support to public service agencies, and

Whereas, during nearly four decades, she has handled over one thousand individual and group cases on behalf of Vermonters with low income, elderly Vermonters, and Vermonters with disabilities, and

Whereas, her diverse contributions to the health and disability areas of the law have included work on the Vermont Health Access Plan, mental health parity, managed-care regulations, Medicaid coverage regulations, Medicare prescription drug coverage programs, and legislation creating the independent review panel and the health care ombudsman for Vermont consumers, and

Whereas, she devoted considerable time to serving on panels dedicated to ensuring that the State's policies and practices are in Vermonters' best interest, and

Whereas, Lila Richardson is the recipient of both the Bi-State Primary Care Association's President's Award for "outstanding contributions to assuring access to health care for vulnerable populations," and the David Goldberg Child and Youth Advocacy Award from the Vermont Children's Forum, and

Whereas, with her husband, Allen Gilbert, during a leave of absence from Vermont Legal Aid, Lila Richardson resided for three years in Eichstätt, Germany, where their first son, Sam, was born, and they had another son, Will, after they returned to the United States, and

Whereas, an avid traveler and reader, with a personal list of 648 books to be read, she is concluding her exemplary tenure at Vermont Legal Aid in order to pursue these endeavors, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Lila M. Richardson on the completion of her distinguished career as a Vermont Legal Aid attorney, and be it further

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