

No. R-224. House concurrent resolution thanking David and June Keenan of Essex for their generous donation to the State House art collection of a Keith Rocco print depicting the Battle of Cedar Creek.

(H.C.R.185)

Offered by: Representatives Dunn of Essex, Bancroft of Westford, Giambatista of Essex, Houghton of Essex, Myers of Essex, and Devereux of Mount Holly

Whereas, the Battle of Cedar Creek, in Virginia, was a critical Civil War battle in October 1864 that secured the strategic Shenandoah Valley for the Union, ending any further Confederate threat on Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, the Eighth Vermont, Tenth Vermont, and First Vermont Cavalry all played key roles in the Battle of Cedar Creek, and the Eighth Vermont sustained a loss of two-thirds of its men in a surprise Confederate attack that was often fought hand-to-hand in fog-enshrouded conditions, and

Whereas, the Civil War Trust is “a nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America’s hallowed battlegrounds” primarily related to the Civil War, and

Whereas, in 2017, the Civil War Trust is conducting a fundraising campaign to save four Civil War battlefields, including land associated with the Battle of Cedar Creek, and

Whereas, artist Keith Rocco recently painted, for the National Park Service’s Cedar Creek Battlefield Park, a colorful piece entitled “*Rally on the Battery!*” (Middletown Cemetery—The Battle of Cedar Creek) that is on display at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, the modern name for Middletown Cemetery, and

Whereas, the Civil War Trust is offering a limited edition print of this painting to major contributors to the campaign, and

Whereas, two of these major donors were David and June Keenan of Essex who are devotees of Civil War history and especially Vermont’s role in the war, and

Whereas, the Keenans have donated their copy of this colorful print to the State House art collection where it will complement the 19th century Civil War paintings of Julian Scott, and

Whereas, the Keenans’ gift represents a generous and most welcomed donation to the State House’s artistic portfolio, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly thanks David and June Keenan of Essex for their generous donation to the State House art collection of a Keith Rocco print depicting the Battle of Cedar Creek, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to David and June Keenan in Essex.