

**No. R-347. House concurrent resolution congratulating William Busier of Essex on his 100th birthday.**

(H.C.R.275)

Offered by: Representative Bissonnette of Winooski

Whereas, Bill Busier was born on March 8, 1918, the year the World War I Armistice was signed, and

Whereas, he served our nation heroically in World War II, and

Whereas, as a member of the U.S. Army, Bill Busier was deployed to the European Theater of Operations, and

Whereas, in December 1944, as thousands of Allied troops, including Bill Busier, headed eastward towards Germany through the Ardennes region of Wallonia in France, Belgium, and Luxenberg, the Germans launched a surprise counteroffensive in an attempt to halt the Allied advance, and

Whereas, this campaign that the Germans designated as Operation Watch on the Rhine and that became known as the Battle of the Bulge resulted in the highest number of American casualties in any World War II operation, and

Whereas, among those Americans the Germans took prisoner was Bill Busier of Essex, and he was forced to endure the brutal conditions of a German prisoner of war camp for the duration of the war in Europe, and

Whereas, after he was freed, he was awarded the Purple Heart, and

Whereas, Bill Busier returned home to Vermont and, despite his harrowing wartime experience, has since lived a long life, and

Whereas, he will observe his 100th birthday on March 8, 2018, and

Whereas, in celebration of this special occasion, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1767 is throwing Bill Busier a most deserved surprise birthday party on March 3, 2018 at the post's headquarters in Winooski, and

Whereas, this party will honor a man who can especially appreciate the sacrifices Americans have made to protect their freedom, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates William Busier of Essex on his 100th birthday, and be it further

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