

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House and Senate
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

March 22, 2018

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 279.

House concurrent resolution honoring Andrew A. Pallito for his exemplary leadership and wisdom as a Vermont public official

Offered by: Representatives Emmons of Springfield, Batchelor of Derby, Belaski of Windsor, Connor of Fairfield, Macaig of Williston, Morrissey of Bennington, Scheu of Middlebury, and Shaw of Pittsford

Offered by: Senators Flory, Brooks, Mazza, Rodgers, and Soucy

Whereas, the State of New Jersey lost a future public servant of incomparable capability when Andy Pallito moved to Vermont, and

Whereas, he earned an accounting degree at Saint Peter's College, now Saint Peter's University, in Jersey City, New Jersey, and was employed initially as a private sector tax and financial consultant, and

Whereas, once settled in Vermont, Andy Pallito entered the public sector, working as a staff accountant at the Agency of Human Services, a position that introduced him to the many financial and operational aspects of State government, and

Whereas, Andy Pallito subsequently assumed the role of Business Manager at the Department of Environmental Conservation, for which he was honored with an employee of the year award; he then progressed to Chief Financial Officer at the Department of Corrections, where his career path led to direct operational management as the Department's successful Deputy Commissioner and later Commissioner, and

Whereas, the respect Andy Pallito earned from his professional colleagues resulted in his serving as the Northeast Association of Correctional Administrators president; and while working at the Department of Corrections, he served on the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, and

Whereas, Andy Pallito advanced his knowledge of Vermont-based civic affairs through his completion of the Snelling Center for Leadership's educational program, and

Whereas, he left the Department of Corrections to serve in the pivotal

Executive Branch position of Commissioner of Finance and Management, earning this seemingly political appointment from both Democratic Governor Peter Shumlin and Republican Governor Philip Scott, and

Whereas, since June 2017, Andy Pallito has served with distinction as the Green Mountain Care Board's Director of Health System Finances, and

Whereas, the exciting opportunity to serve as Dean of Administration at the Community College of Vermont has persuaded this outstanding public official, private airplane pilot, and avid outdoorsman to conclude his Executive Branch service and assume a new career challenge, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Andrew A. Pallito for his exemplary leadership and wisdom while serving as a Vermont public official, and wishes him every future success, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 280.

House concurrent resolution designating July 2018 as Parks and Recreation Month in Vermont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the State of Vermont, and

Whereas, Vermont's parks and recreation programs are important in establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our local communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the State, and

Whereas, parks and recreation programs help build healthy and active communities, contribute to the prevention of chronic disease, assist in the provision of therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and contribute to the improvement of the mental and emotional health of all citizens, and

Whereas, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction, and

Whereas, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, Vermont's parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our State and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and to recreate outdoors, and

Whereas, in 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 288, designating July as National Parks and Recreation Month, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates the month of July 2018 as Parks and Recreation Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association.

H.C.R. 281.

House concurrent resolution designating March 19, 2018 as Women in Public Office Day

Offered by: Representatives Sullivan of Dorset and Buckholz of Hartford

Whereas, women play a critical role in the vitality and diversity of our communities, and their serving in public office is essential to ensuring equal gender representation in civic life, and

Whereas, although the 20th century was a pivotal century for women entering politics, they remain underrepresented in this male-dominated field, and providing opportunities to encourage women to serve in public office is imperative, and

Whereas, recognizing women in public office will bring awareness of the fundamental necessity of their work and will inspire young women to serve their communities in this way, and

Whereas, March is Women's History Month and celebrates the significant contributions women of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds have made in our society and affords an excellent opportunity to highlight the importance of women serving in public office, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 19, 2018 as Women in Public

Office Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Commission on Women.

H.C.R. 282.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Dr. John W. Hennessey Jr. of Shelburne

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: Senators Lyons, Sirotkin, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Ingram, Pearson, and White

Whereas, John Hennessey was one of the nation's truly great and most admired academic leaders, and

Whereas, his undergraduate studies at Princeton University were interrupted during World War II, when he served as a U.S. Army officer in the Philippines, and

Whereas, following his Princeton graduation Phi Beta Kappa, John Hennessey earned an MBA from the Harvard Business School and a PhD from the University of Washington's College of Business Administration, and

Whereas, in 1957, Dartmouth College's Amos Tuck School of Business Administration (Tuck) appointed him a full professor, and his Tuck tenure included teaching in Switzerland and consulting on graduate business education curriculums for the People's Republic of China, Turkey, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and

Whereas, upon returning to the United States, Professor Hennessey was appointed Tuck's Associate Dean, and in 1968, he accepted the position of Dean, conditioned on his continuing to teach and the school's admitting women; and the Tuck School accepted its first women students three years prior to women's admission to Dartmouth as undergraduates, and

Whereas, highlights of Dean John Hennessey's leadership were the initiation of the Tuck Executive Program, the Tuck Education Loan Program, and *Tuck Today*, the school's magazine for alumnx, and

Whereas, he served as the founding chair of the Council on Opportunity in Graduate Management Education that fostered minority enrollment in the nation's top business schools, was honored with Dartmouth College's Third Century Professorship, and co-founded the Dartmouth Ethics Institute, and

Whereas, he served as the University of Vermont's Provost and Interim

President, and UVM, the University of New Hampshire, and Vermont Law School each conferred on him an honorary degree, and

Whereas, after the death of his first wife, Jean, he married former Governor Madeleine May Kunin in 2006, and

Whereas, John Hennessey died on January 11, 2018, and his survivors include his wife, Madeleine; children, John III and Martha; three grandchildren; five great-granddaughters; and his stepchildren and stepgrandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of John W. Hennessey Jr. of Shelburne, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of John W. Hennessey Jr.'s family.

H.C.R. 283.

House concurrent resolution designating March 2018 as Older Vermonters Nutrition Month

Offered by: Representatives Wood of Waterbury, Ainsworth of Royalton, Ancel of Calais, Bancroft of Westford, Bartholomew of Hartland, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Belaski of Windsor, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bock of Chester, Botzow of Pownal, Brennan of Colchester, Briglin of Thetford, Browning of Arlington, Brumsted of Shelburne, Buckholz of Hartford, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christensen of Weathersfield, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Colburn of Burlington, Condon of Colchester, Conlon of Cornwall, Connor of Fairfield, Conquest of Newbury, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Dunn of Essex, Emmons of Springfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Feltus of Lyndon, Fields of Bennington, Forguites of Springfield, Frenier of Chelsea, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Gannon of Wilmington, Gardner of Richmond, Giambatista of Essex, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Harrison of Chittenden, Head of South Burlington, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hill of Wolcott, Hooper of Montpelier, Hooper of Randolph, Houghton of Essex, Howard of Rutland City, Jessup of Middlesex, Jickling of Randolph, Johnson of South Hero, Joseph of North Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keefe of

Manchester, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Krowinski of Burlington, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lewis of Berlin, Lippert of Hinesburg, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, Masland of Thetford, Mattos of Milton, McCormack of Burlington, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Murphy of Fairfax, Myers of Essex, Nolan of Morristown, Norris of Shoreham, Noyes of Wolcott, Ode of Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pajala of Londonderry, Parent of St. Albans Town, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Quimby of Concord, Rachelson of Burlington, Read of Fayston, Rosenquist of Georgia, Savage of Swanton, Scheu of Middlebury, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sibia of Dover, Smith of Derby, Smith of New Haven, Squirrell of Underhill, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Dorset, Sullivan of Burlington, Taylor of Colchester, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Till of Jericho, Toleno of Brattleboro, Toll of Danville, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Weed of Enosburgh, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Wright of Burlington, Yacovone of Morristown, Yantachka of Charlotte, and Young of Glover

Whereas, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed Pub. L. No. 92-258, amending the Older Americans Act of 1965 and establishing nutrition programs for persons 60 years of age and older, and

Whereas, in 2002, Meals on Wheels America established the “March for Meals” campaign to recognize the historic significance of the Older Americans Act’s nutrition programs and to highlight the important issue of senior hunger in this country, and

Whereas, isolation and loneliness contribute to higher rates of chronic health conditions and admission to nursing homes and emergency rooms; and over 40,000 older Vermonters are isolated and living alone and over 20,000 live in food insecure homes, and

Whereas, 33 percent of older Americans admitted to the hospital may suffer from malnutrition and 50 percent living in the community may be malnourished, and

Whereas, volunteers delivering a healthy meal offer a warm smile, a safety check, improve seniors’ quality of life, and provide critical support that keeps

seniors in their own homes, and

Whereas, older Americans remaining at home, and out of hospitals and nursing homes, save billions of dollars in Medicare and Medicaid costs, and

Whereas, congregate meals, provided in senior centers and dining halls, offer older Americans the opportunity to enjoy a nutritious meal with their peers and neighbors, and

Whereas, in 2017, the Older Americans Act's nutrition programs served a total of 15,372 Vermonters, 4,715 at home and 10,657 in congregate settings; and they were served a total of 1,170,781 meals of which 785,086 were home-delivered and 385,695 were offered in congregate settings, and

Whereas, as the size of Vermont's older population continues to increase, it is essential that no Vermonter goes hungry, and

Whereas, the Older Americans Act's nutrition programs are helping to decrease the prevalence of hunger and malnutrition among older Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 2018 as Older Vermonters Nutrition Month, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Association of the Area Agencies on Aging.

H.C.R. 284.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers on winning their fourth consecutive Division I girls' indoor track and field championship

Offered by: Representatives Beck of St. Johnsbury, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Kitchel and Benning

Whereas, the continuing athletic excellence of the St. Johnsbury Academy Division I girls' indoor track and field team garnered the Hilltoppers the Division I crown in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and

Whereas, the same drive and highly developed skills predominated the team's preparations for the 2018 Division I championship meet held at the University of Vermont, and

Whereas, the Hilltoppers met every expectation, scoring first in the 55-

meter dash, the 55-meter hurdles, the 300-meter dash, the 1,000-meter run, the pole vault, the weight throw, the long jump, and the 200-, 400-, and 800-meter relay races, tallying 126 more points than second-place Essex High School, and winning a fourth consecutive Division I championship, and

Whereas, these talented Hilltoppers were Katherine Cowan, Annie Cunningham, Bridget Webber, Hannah Wescott, Siniah Yates-Moses, Callahan Beck, Natalie Cartwright, Danielle Chesborough, Breanna Fearon, Rebecca Green, Nora Heffernan, Riley Higgs, Zekiah Lewis, Katie Neuharth, Lia Rotti, Jen Rotti, Rory Young, Sadie Chapman, Lilly Leach, Isabella Bostic, Molly Brennan, Charlotte Flanders, and Sierra Shippee, and

Whereas, Head Coach Chip Langmaid, assistant coaches Stephen Badgley, Andra Hibbert, and Michael Zahner, and volunteer coaches Brandon Legendre and Felisha Olmstead comprise an outstanding group of instructors and mentors, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers on winning their fourth consecutive Division I girls' indoor track and field championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.

H.C.R. 285.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2018 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship boys' indoor track and field team

Offered by: Representatives Beck of St. Johnsbury, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Kitchel and Benning

Whereas, the 2017–2018 Division I boys' track and field season featured many outstanding young athletes, including the St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers, a team that had lost 18 seniors to the 2017 graduating class, and

Whereas, the State championship meet, held at the University of Vermont, was certain to be a day of close competition for the Division I title, and

Whereas, the athletes and coaches recognized that every point counted, and

Whereas, the Hilltoppers secured first place in the 55-meter hurdles, the

4×800 relay, and the weight throw, and those top placements, in combination with the balance of the team's strong results, enabled St. Johnsbury to win the 2018 Division I title, narrowly outscoring runner-up Essex High School 100.50 to 97, and third place Mount Mansfield Union High at 94 points, and

Whereas, the victorious Hilltoppers were Kristian Baird, Matteo Dill, Andrew Hegarty, Allan Poller, Jasper Sterling, Ralph Steyn, Lance Abella, Nathaniel Atkins, Carter Barron, Brandon Burmeister, Ethan Eames, Alex Gingue, Sajan Harvey, Malik Joell, Jacob Lacaillade, Orrin Olmstead, Dillon Ryan, Lane Baldauf, Mackay Breton, and Gabriel Hatch, and

Whereas, Head Coach Chip Langmaid; Assistant Coaches Stephen Badgley, Andra Hibbert, and Michael Zahner; along with volunteer coaches Brandon Legendre and Felisha Olmstead were thrilled with the team's special effort, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2018 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship boys' indoor track and field team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.

H.C.R. 286.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Elaine B. Little of Shelburne and Burlington

Offered by: Representatives Webb of Shelburne, Brumsted of Shelburne, Donovan of Burlington, Sullivan of Burlington, Cina of Burlington, Colburn of Burlington, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Deen of Westminster, Dunn of Essex, Emmons of Springfield, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Head of South Burlington, Johnson of South Hero, Joseph of North Hero, Krowinski of Burlington, Lippert of Hinesburg, McCormack of Burlington, Murphy of Fairfax, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, and Wright of Burlington

Offered by: Senators Lyons, Ashe, Baruth, Ingram, Mazza, Pearson, and Sirotkin

Whereas, Elaine Little graduated from Rutland High School and developed a love of skiing at Pico Peak, and

Whereas, at the University of Vermont, from which she graduated in 1943

as a member of the women's national honor society, Mortar Board, Elaine Little helped to start the women's ski team, whose members were required to climb the original Nose Dive Trail at Mount Mansfield prior to every downhill run, and

Whereas, following graduation, Elaine Little served as a secretary to Governor Mortimer Proctor and, at the end of World War II, coordinated the State's VJ Day celebration, and

Whereas, she was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral and in the early 1960s chaired Vermont's March of Dimes campaign, and

Whereas, Elaine Little's public sector positions included service on the Burlington Planning Commission; her valiant attempt to preserve the historic Bishop's House on South Williams Street in Burlington; sitting on the Burlington Design Review Board; and membership on the State's Water Resources Board, and

Whereas, Elaine Little's special passion was volunteering for organizations whose mission focused on helping those in need, including the United Way, the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, and the Committee on Temporary Shelter, and

Whereas, she steadfastly supported her husband, George's volunteer work at nonprofit educational organizations such as the Ethan Allen Homestead and the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, and

Whereas, Elaine Little's legacy of volunteer leadership in Burlington left the organizations with which she was associated better institutions, and

Whereas, in recognition of their community service in Burlington, a city park was named in honor of Elaine Little and her husband, the late Senator George E. Little Jr., and

Whereas, she retained a love of outdoor recreational activities, especially at her family's camps, on the ski slopes, and in trout streams, and

Whereas, Elaine Little died on January 28, 2018 at 96 years of age, and her survivors include: her children, James, Thomas, William, and Margaret; six grandchildren; a great-grandson; and a brother, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Elaine B. Little of Shelburne and Burlington, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Elaine Little's family.

H.C.R. 287.

House concurrent resolution honoring the life and legacy of Robert Romeo De Cormier Jr. of Belmont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, for Robert De Cormier, music, and especially choral music, was a creative way to express his dedication to promoting peace and justice in the world, and

Whereas, he studied at Colby College in Maine and the University of New Mexico before joining the U.S. Army during World War II, and

Whereas, while he was serving in Germany, mortar fire severely damaged his wrist, ending any hope of his pursuing a trumpeter's career; but back home in New York, he joined the Congress of Industrial Organizations Chorus and met the folk singer Pete Seeger, forming an enduring friendship, and

Whereas, Robert De Cormier earned a master's degree from the famed Juilliard School of Music and taught at New York City's Little Red School House, where one of his students, Mary Travers, would become part of the Peter, Paul and Mary folk trio with whom he maintained a close personal and professional relationship, and

Whereas, his diverse choral leadership included The Belafonte Folk Singers, the De Cormier Singers, and the New York Choral Society, and

Whereas, he helped found the Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VSO) Chorus in 1993, and

Whereas, in 1999, Robert De Cormier formed Counterpoint, an 11-member ensemble that performs "choral chamber music throughout Vermont's communities and beyond," whose broad repertoire includes classical, folk, sacred, and spiritual music, and which has produced a discography of nine recordings reflecting this musical diversity, and

Whereas, Robert De Cormier received the 2002 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, and Middlebury College and the University of Vermont each conferred on him an honorary degree, and

Whereas, after his son, Christopher, died in 1977 of cancer at 23 years of age, Robert De Cormier composed "Legacy," a moving choral remembrance set to the poetry of his father-in-law, John Dobbs, and in January 2018 the VSO Chorus remembered its illustrious conductor of 21 years with a heartfelt performance, and

Whereas, the Friends of Robert De Cormier, comprising selected VSO choristers, sang his final work, "Sing for Peace," at St Michael's College, and

Whereas, Robert De Cormier died on November 7, 2017, and his survivors include his wife and musical partner, Louise; daughter, Robin; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the life and work of and extends its sincere condolences to the family of Robert Romeo De Cormier Jr. of Belmont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Robert De Cormier, to Counterpoint, and to the VSO.

H.C.R. 288.

House concurrent resolution celebrating the cultural and economic centrality of agriculture in the State of Vermont

Offered by: Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

Whereas, ever since Vermont's founding in the 18th century, agriculture has been a primary means of economic support and way of life for Vermonters, and

Whereas, in 21st century Vermont, agriculture and agriculturally related industries remain a vibrant and vital force in the State's economy and the daily lives of thousands of Vermonters, and

Whereas, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets has compiled a statistical synopsis documenting the importance of agriculture activities in our State, and

Whereas, combining all agricultural production and sales, the annual economic impact of agriculture in Vermont totals \$2.63 billion, of which \$2.2 billion is based on the dairy industry, and

Whereas, Vermont's annual agricultural sales at \$776 million are the largest of the six New England states, and

Whereas, 15 percent of the State's acreage is devoted to dairy farms and the fields that provide dairy cattle their feed, totaling 900,000 acres, and

Whereas, over 80 percent of all farmland in the State is devoted to dairy and crops used to feed dairy cattle, and

Whereas, 70 percent of Vermont's agricultural sales are derived from dairy, and

Whereas, the more than 750 Vermont dairy farms are home to over 128,000 dairy cows that produce over 321 million gallons of milk annually, and

Whereas, although Vermont's economy is only two-tenths of one percent of the nation's economy, the Green Mountain State is the source for more than one percent of the nation's dairy products, or five times the State's percentage contribution to the American economy, and

Whereas, at least 94 percent of Vermont's schools purchase locally produced food, and the State is home to over 75 farmers' markets, more per capita than any other state, and

Whereas, yesterday, March 20, 2018, was National Agricultural Day, and this week is an ideal time to salute the importance of agriculture in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the cultural and economic centrality of agriculture in the State of Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets and to the Vermont Farm Bureau.

H.C.R. 289.

House concurrent resolution designating March 22, 2018 as Vermont Nonprofit Legislative Day at the State House

Offered by: Representatives Rachelson of Burlington, Bock of Chester, Brumsted of Shelburne, Christensen of Weathersfield, Conlon of Cornwall, Donahue of Northfield, Feltus of Lyndon, Fields of Bennington, Gamache of Swanton, Haas of Rochester, Hooper of Randolph, Krowinski of Burlington, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Nolan of Morristown, Ode of Burlington, Pajala of Londonderry, Scheu of Middlebury, Scheuermann of Stowe, Strong of Albany, Sullivan of Dorset, Till of Jericho, Walz of Barre City, Yantachka of Charlotte, and Young of Glover

Whereas, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has granted nonprofit status to over 4,500 Vermont organizations that help build and sustain healthy communities throughout the State, and

Whereas, the IRS estimated that in 2016, Vermont nonprofits earned more than \$6.8 billion in gross revenue, and

Whereas, based on the most recently available data, the Vermont Common Good organization has calculated that nonprofit organizations contribute approximately 22 percent of the State's gross domestic product, a not-insignificant amount, and

Whereas, nonprofit organizations serve a vital role in employing and training Vermonters, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has estimated that nonprofit employees represent 17.9 percent of the State's workforce, and

Whereas, the Department of Taxes has estimated this percentage is equivalent to 62,000 Vermonters, and

Whereas, Common Good Vermont helps nonprofit organizations and their employees improve their effectiveness and efficiency through the provision of resources and training and the facilitating of partnerships, and

Whereas, on March 22, 2018, under the auspices of Common Good Vermont, representatives of nonprofit organizations will gather in the State House to inform legislators concerning the vital activities of Vermont's nonprofit sector, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 22, 2018 as Vermont Nonprofit Legislative Day at the State House, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Common Good.

H.C.R. 290.

House concurrent resolution designating March 2018 as National Social Work Month in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Cina of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ancel of Calais, Bock of Chester, Botzow of Pownal, Briglin of Thetford, Brumsted of Shelburne, Buckholz of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christensen of Weathersfield, Christie of Hartford, Colburn of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Dunn of Essex, Fields of Bennington, Gage of Rutland City, Gonzalez of Winooski, Haas of Rochester, Hebert of Vernon, Hooper of Randolph, Houghton of Essex, Jessup of Middlesex, Jickling of Randolph, Keefe of Manchester, Lefebvre of Newark, Lippert of Hinesburg, Mattos of Milton, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Noyes of Wolcott, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pajala of Londonderry, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Sibia of Dover, Squirrel of Underhill, Sullivan of Dorset, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Webb of Shelburne, Weed of Enosburgh, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, the social work profession is dedicated to enhancing the well-being of and meeting the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in our society, and

Whereas, social workers, in performing their professional responsibilities,

embody this year's Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers: Leaders. Advocates. Champions," and

Whereas, social workers have been present throughout our society, including in government, schools, universities, social service agencies, communities, the military, health care and mental health organizations, corporations, and the private sector, and

Whereas, social workers are the largest group of mental health service providers in the United States, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is one of the largest employers of social workers holding advanced degrees, and

Whereas, social workers are leaders in times of crisis, helping people overcome death, grief, and trauma, and assisting individuals and communities recover from natural and human-originated disasters, and

Whereas, social workers are advocates for equal rights for all persons, including women, African-Americans, Latinx, indigenous people, various ethnic, cultural, and religious groups, immigrants, persons with a disability, the LGBTQI community, working people, children, families, and elders, and

Whereas, social workers have been champions for some of the most profound, positive changes in our society over the past century, including voting rights, improved workplace safety, minimum wage, and social safety net programs that help prevent poverty and hunger, and

Whereas, social workers continue to engage and bring together individuals, communities, social service agencies, and government to help society solve some of the most pressing issues of the day, including immigration reform, equal rights for all, affordable and high-quality health care and mental health care for all, and protecting the environment, and

Whereas, March is observed annually as National Social Work Month, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 2018 as National Social Work Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

S.C.R. 22.

By Senators Kitchel, Benning, Rodgers, and Starr,

By Representatives Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Higley of Lowell, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, Smith of Derby, Strong of Albany, Toll of Danville, Troiano of Stannard, Viens of Newport City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, and Young of Glover,

Senate concurrent resolution designating Saturday, March 24, 2018 as Northeast Kingdom Day in Vermont.

Whereas, the northeastern corner of Vermont, a geographic territory encompassing Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties, is a special place, and

Whereas, in the 1940s, Newport publisher Wallace Gilpin and veteran Lyndon town moderator and periodic state legislator, W. Arthur Simpson, coined the phrase Northeast Kingdom that U.S. Senator George Aiken cited during a March 24, 1949 speech at the Darling Inn in Lyndonville, and

Whereas, the pace of life in the Northeast Kingdom is less hectic and more relaxed, reflecting the Kingdom's rural character, and farming and forestry play important roles in the region's economy, and

Whereas, traditional recreational pursuits, such as hunting and fishing, are abundant in the Northeast Kingdom as are other outdoor activities, including canoeing, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and mountain biking, and

Whereas, the NorthWoods Stewardship Center in East Charleston and Kingdom Trails in East Burke are among the organizations that develop recreational opportunities and sponsor numerous educational and cultural activities, and

Whereas, at the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury, tourists and local residents alike delight in viewing the natural history exhibits and watching fascinating astronomy presentations at the Lyman Spitzer Jr. Planetarium; and thousands of Vermonters rely on the museum's Eye on the Sky weather reports, and

Whereas, the recently opened Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro is an architecturally impressive performing arts and exhibition center, and

Whereas, the Caledonia County Fair in Lyndonville, first held in 1855, and the Orleans County Fair in Barton, which in 2017 celebrated its 150th birthday, are late-summer attractions that draw crowds from near and far, serve as agricultural showcases, and are entertainment extravaganzas, and

Whereas, the Northeast Kingdom is home to enterprising artists and

craftspersons who provide a creative component for the region, and

Whereas, the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative recently announced a new initiative to promote the region's economic and leadership vibrancy, and

Whereas, there is much to delight in and be proud about in the Northeast Kingdom, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates Saturday, March 24, 2018 as Northeast Kingdom Day in Vermont, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce.