

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 24

House concurrent resolution congratulating The Dorset Inn on its 220th anniversary and honoring the current owners, Steve and Lauren Bryant

Offered by: Representative Sullivan of Dorset

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, in the late 18th century, travel to Boston or Albany could be an arduous journey, and the Vermont town of Dorset was a convenient overnight resting stop, and

Whereas, in recognition of Dorset's pivotal geographic location, in 1796, the Washington Hotel opened on the town's green in a building featuring iconic columns intended to replicate those of President George Washington's Mount Vernon home, and

Whereas, this gracious public accommodation evolved from a waystation for weary early-American travelers to a vacation destination where guests find commodious lodging and delicious culinary fare, and

Whereas, as with any edifice of historic vintage, there are reports of a residential ghost known as "the General," supposedly a Civil War era Union officer, who appears on occasion in uniform and enjoys acting mischievously at the staff's expense, and

Whereas, in 1904, the proprietor decided a more locally connected name was needed, and the Washington Hotel became The Dorset Inn, and

Whereas, a 1918 building expansion increased The Dorset Inn's number of guest rooms to 35, but in recent years, after a loving and meticulous restoration overseen by current owners Steve and Lauren Bryant, that number was reduced to 27, and

Whereas, The Dorset Inn's place in cinematic history was assured when a scene of the 1971 film *Portnoy's Complaint* was shot on the premises, and

Whereas, fine cuisine for guests and the public, including special events such as weddings and community themed dinners, is offered in The Dorset Inn's several dining rooms, and in 2008, the magazine *Wine Spectator* selected The Dorset Inn as one of America's Best Restaurants, and

Whereas, in 2016, Steve and Lauren Bryant marked The Dorset Inn's 220th anniversary, and it proudly holds the distinction as Vermont's longest continuing operating inn and annually serves 9,000 overnight guests, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates The Dorset Inn on its 220th anniversary, and honors the current owners, Steve and Lauren Bryant, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Steve and Lauren Bryant at The Dorset Inn.