

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 304

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 125th anniversary of the legislative incorporation of the Village of Essex Junction

Offered by: Representatives Houghton of Essex and Giambatista of Essex

Whereas, in the late 18th century, Ira Allen constructed a dam at Hubbells Falls, a sawmill was established adjacent to the dam, and an economic growth center evolved, and

Whereas, nearby, where two major early-19th-century roads intersected, Lincoln Hall, the village's municipal office building, was built as a tavern, and the immediate area became known as Five Corners, and

Whereas, by the middle 1850s, six rail lines intersected at a site near the existing road junction, and a train station was constructed to accommodate rail passengers, and

Whereas, although the larger surrounding area was formally known as Painesville, in honor of Governor Charles Paine, the builder of one of the rail lines, train conductors started announcing the location as Essex Junction, informing passengers that it was the place to switch trains, and

Whereas, the name Essex Junction was based on the area's location within the borders of the Town of Essex, and

Whereas, in 1873, the State's first brick schoolhouse was built in Essex and a graded school district was eventually established, and

Whereas, by 1892, Essex Junction had become a busy economic center of its own accord, and local citizens petitioned the General Assembly to incorporate the village, a request fulfilled in 1892 Acts and Resolves No. 120 that was approved on November 15 of that year, and

Whereas, section 1 of the charter provided "The inhabitants of that part of the town of Essex embraced within the limits of the Essex Junction Graded school district in said town are hereby incorporated and made a body politic and corporate by the name of the village of Essex Junction," and

Whereas, within 15 years, the village had established a volunteer fire department, a trolley service, a police department, a public library, and access to public water, and

Whereas, the Champlain Valley Exposition and the IBM manufacturing complex, today's GlobalFoundries, are prominent 20th century landmarks, and

Whereas, on April 4, 2018, the annual Essex Junction Village Meeting will include a reenactment of the first such gathering held in 1893, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 125th anniversary of the Village of Essex Junction, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Essex Junction Village Clerk.