

**No. R-39. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of Judge Francis Bernard McCaffrey Jr. of Weston.**

(S.C.R.3)

By Senators Ashe, Balint, Baruth, Benning, Bray, Brock, Campion, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, McNeil, Nitka, Parent, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman and White,

By Representatives Pajala of Londonderry, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Cupoli of Rutland City, Emmons of Springfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Grad of Moretown, Haas of Rochester, Howard of Rutland City, Jerome of Brandon, Lippert of Hinesburg, McCormack of Burlington, Notte of Rutland City, Partridge of Windham, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Redmond of Essex, Sibilina of Dover, Sullivan of Dorset, Sullivan of Burlington, and Terenzini of Rutland Town,

*Whereas*, Judge Francis McCaffrey, known to friends as Mac, was a man of great compassion and wisdom, and

*Whereas*, he demonstrated a great empathy for individuals whose daily challenges might appear insurmountable, and

*Whereas*, as a youth in New York City, Francis McCaffrey earned both a high school diploma and an All-NYC basketball player designation, and

*Whereas*, at Saint Michael's College, his basketball prowess contributed to the Purple Knights' appearance in an NCAA Final Four championship game, and

*Whereas*, Francis McCaffrey was inducted into the Vermont and the New England Basketball Hall of Fame and passed on his basketball enthusiasm to his children, and

*Whereas*, after graduating from Saint Michael's College, he earned a law degree from Fordham University Law School and then practiced law in New York City, Manchester, New Hampshire, and, ultimately, Rutland, and

*Whereas*, Francis McCaffrey's legal acumen surpassed his basketball prowess as he was selected to serve as a Vermont trial court judge and was later appointed the administrative judge for the trial court system, and

*Whereas*, although he presided over notable trials, Judge Frances McCaffrey believed a judge should never become the focus of judicial proceedings, and

*Whereas*, Judge Francis McCaffrey's most enduring contribution to the Vermont judiciary was perhaps presiding in the Rutland Drug Treatment Court after he retired, a role to which he brought judicial experience, legal expertise, and a genuine concern for the victims of drug addiction, and

*Whereas*, Francis McCaffrey practiced his deep faith through his membership in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and close association with the Weston Priory, and this same faith prompted his roles as a founding member of Serenity House, a training teacher in the Thresholds Decision Program, and an avid supporter of his wife's pioneering leadership of Dismas of Vermont, and

*Whereas*, the illustrious life of Judge Francis McCaffrey ended on October 27, 2018, and his survivors include his beloved wife, Rita, their children and grandchildren, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Judge Francis Bernard McCaffrey Jr., *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send copies of this resolution to the members of the family of Judge Francis McCaffrey.