

**No. R-86. House concurrent resolution congratulating Cabot Creamery Co-operative on its centennial.**

(H.C.R.68)

Offered by: Representatives Toll of Danville, Bartholomew of Hartland, Bock of Chester, Conquest of Newbury, Dolan of Waitsfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Fegard of Berkshire, Feltus of Lyndon, Graham of Williamstown, Helm of Fair Haven, Hooper of Montpelier, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lefebvre of Newark, McFaun of Barre Town, Myers of Essex, Norris of Shoreham, Noyes of Wolcott, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Partridge of Windham, Pugh of South Burlington, Scheu of Middlebury, Sheldon of Middlebury, Strong of Albany, Townsend of South Burlington, Wood of Waterbury, and Yacovone of Morristown

Offered by: Senators Kitchel, Benning, Mazza, Cummings, MacDonald, Perchlik, Pollina, Starr, and Westman

Whereas, in 1919, Vermont dairy farmers recognized that ensuring the best possible price for their milk required pooling their production and marketing resources, and in the small town of Cabot, a group of 94 dairy farmers implemented this idea and established the Cabot Creamery Co-operative (the Co-operative), and

Whereas, until the 1930s, the Co-operative's primary product was Rosedale-branded butter, and during that decade the first cheese-making equipment was installed at the creamery, enabling the production of cheddar and cottage cheese, and in the 1980s, the Rosedale brand was retired and the Cabot brand, now so closely associated with the Co-operative, served as its replacement, and

Whereas, in 1989, the Co-operative earned a first-place award in the cheddar category at the U.S. Championship Cheese Contest, initiating a flurry of national and international prizes that continues to this day, and

Whereas, although the Co-operative merged with Agri-Mark Dairy Co-operative, the Cabot brand remains strong, and the direct, historic tie to the farmers who established the Co-operative continues, and

Whereas, today, the Co-operative is owned by over 800 dairy farm families located in New England and New York State, and over 600 persons are Vermont-based Cabot employees working at manufacturing plants in Cabot and Middlebury, a product-aging warehouse in St. Albans, and an administrative center in Waitsfield, and approximately 300 individuals are employed outside Vermont, predominately in Massachusetts and New York, and

Whereas, the Co-operative is proud of its numerous partnerships, beginning with its marketing collaboration with Vermont's ski areas and continuing with its current associations with over 4,000 nonprofit organizations for which Cabot employees volunteer their time and expertise, and

Whereas, during the past three decades, the Co-operative has invested \$228 million in Vermont for plants and equipment, and in 2018, the combined domestic and international sales of cheese, butter, and yogurt products totaled \$925 million, a strong start for its second century, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Cabot Creamery Co-operative on its centennial, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Co-operative's administrative office in Waitsfield.