

No. R-224. House concurrent resolution designating Sunday, September 22, 2019 as the first Castleton Day.

(H.C.R.185)

Offered by: Representatives Helm of Fair Haven and Canfield of Fair Haven

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Hooker, and McNeil

Whereas, on September 22, 1761, New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth granted a charter for the town of Castleton, which covered a tract of land equaling 36 square miles, and

Whereas, in the spring of 1767, early settlers Amos Bird and Noah Lee arrived in Castleton from Salisbury, Connecticut, and

Whereas, in May 1775, Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, Edward Mott, John Brown, and Benedict Arnold met to finalize the attack on Fort Ticonderoga, while 250 American troops camped at the farm of Richard Bentley, and

Whereas, in 1779, Fort Warren was constructed as a Revolutionary War defense facility for the new nation's northern frontier, and

Whereas, in 1787 in Castleton, the Rutland County Grammar School was established, which later became a high school and then a seminary before it became a college for teachers, and it is the direct predecessor of today's Castleton University, and

Whereas, the historic Higley House, which the Castleton Historical Society maintains and uses for exhibits, was built between 1810 and 1811, and

Whereas, in 1818, Castleton Medical College became the first medical school in Vermont, and its home, now known as the Old Chapel, is the oldest building on the Castleton University campus, and

Whereas, in 1848, the General Assembly granted a charter to the Rutland and Whitehall Railroad, also known as the Castleton Company, and by 1850, the company had constructed a railroad from Castleton to Fair Haven on the New York state border, and

Whereas, during the decades following the Civil War, Castleton's population diversified to include Irish, Italian, and Slavic immigrants who came to work in the town's mills and quarries, and

Whereas, the Town of Castleton retains an architectural heritage and tree-shaded charm, reflecting two hundred years of Vermont history, and

Whereas, on September 22, 2019, the Castleton Historical Society and other community organizations will celebrate the town's history at the first Castleton Day, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates Sunday, September 22, 2019 as the first Castleton Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Castleton Town Clerk and the Castleton Historical Society.