

No. R-236. House concurrent resolution congratulating Harry Chandler on his 100th birthday.

(H.C.R.195)

Offered by: Representatives Sullivan of Dorset, Brownell of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Carroll of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, James of Manchester, and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Harry Chandler's personal century, which began on December 12, 1919, has featured bravery, business acumen, and in more recent years, an abiding interest in helping to provide new affordable housing opportunities for those in need, and

Whereas, he was born in Brooklyn, New York, and educated at Adelphi Academy and at Lehigh University, and

Whereas, his brief experience as a human resources manager, at 21 years of age, was a mere prelude to his extraordinary service in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II, and

Whereas, as the commander of a B-17 bomber, he led his crew on 27 successful European bombing raids, and

Whereas, on March 15, 1945, Captain Harry Chandler took off from Rattleson Royal Air Force Base in England on a bombing mission, unbeknownst to him at the time, to destroy a Nazi German plant producing the components of an atomic bomb, but after accomplishing its mission, the plane was hit, and Captain Chandler, who was one of the nine-person crew's three survivors, endured two months in German prisoner-of-war camps, and

Whereas, more than a half century later, Harry Chandler visited the site, in Germany, where the plane's debris landed, and he spoke to an eyewitness of the event whose description confirmed that the pilot could not have taken any further action to prevent the crash, and

Whereas, after a successful business career, Harry Chandler settled in Vermont, where he has long-standing family ties, and he has been actively associated with Habitat for Humanity's housing construction program in Bennington County, and

Whereas, this special Vermonter celebrated his centennial birthday on December 12, 2019, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Harry Chandler and extends to him best wishes on his 100th birthday, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Harry Chandler.