

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House and Senate
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

January 10, 2019

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 1.

House concurrent resolution honoring Newport City Fire Department Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel on their successful September 2018 rescue effort

Offered by: Representatives Marcotte of Coventry and Page of Newport City

Offered by: Senators Rodgers and Starr

Whereas, late in the evening of September 28, 2018, in response to reports of activated smoke alarms and smoke, departmental personnel and equipment were dispatched to apartment number two at 25 Oak Street in Newport City, and

Whereas, the first to reach the scene was Chief James LeClair Sr., who saw the ferocity of the smoke engulfing the apartment and was told that the apartment's resident remained trapped inside, and

Whereas, as soon as the first fire truck arrived, Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel broke the apartment's locked door, entered the apartment, and located the breathing, but clearly disoriented, resident lying in a chair, and

Whereas, these quick-acting firefighters rescued the imperiled resident and brought the individual to the waiting EMS crew for transport to the hospital, and

Whereas, the department's hose team then extinguished the fire, and firefighters identified unattended food cooking on the resident's stove as the fire's cause, and

Whereas, First Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. is a nine-year departmental veteran, is Firefighter 2 certified, a certified Aircraft Rescue Firefighter, a firefighter with the Vermont Air National Guard, and a full-time Newport City police officer, and

Whereas, this was a second successful rescue for Firefighter Ryan Abel, who is an 11-year departmental veteran and is Firefighter 1 certified and who manages Feed Commodities in Newport, and

Whereas, each of these firefighters epitomizes the department's high level of professionalism, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Newport City Fire Department Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel on their successful September 2018 rescue effort, and

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Newport City Fire Chief James LeClair Sr., Lieutenant James LeClair Jr., Firefighter Ryan Abel, and Newport City Manager Laura Dolgin.

H.C.R. 2.

House concurrent resolution designating January 2019 as School Board Recognition Month in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Sibilio of Dover, Christie of Hartford, Conlon of Cornwall, LaLonde of South Burlington, Long of Newfane, and Myers of Essex

Whereas, the elected citizen members of Vermont's school boards are extremely dedicated public servants, tackling education policy issues that are of enormous concern to school administrators, teachers, parents, students, and the community at large, and

Whereas, school board members devote countless hours to overseeing all local jurisdictional aspects of public education in Vermont and, at most, are paid only token monetary compensation, and

Whereas, certain matters confronting school boards may resonate strongly with a specific constituency—for example, whether a particular high school course will be offered or a varsity sport played, and

Whereas, school board members must occasionally decide potentially sensitive and divisive questions, such as whether to continue the tenure of a teacher, principal, or superintendent, and

Whereas, although school board members are not the originators of State education laws and administrative directives, they are often the first public officials required to respond to criticism regarding the State's education policies, and

Whereas, following the passage in 2015 of Act 46, school board service became more challenging, as it involved deliberations to determine the future

composition and sometimes continued existence of school districts and school boards, and

Whereas, school board members have collaborated with their communities to improve the educational opportunities available for students' and parents' consideration, and

Whereas, in facing these challenging demands, school board members receive far too little praise for their public service, and

Whereas, nationally, a number of states and local communities observe January as School Board Recognition Month in order to honor the special work of school boards, and the granting of this honor to Vermont's school boards and their members is well deserved, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates January 2019 as School Board Recognition Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont School Boards Association in Montpelier.

H.C.R. 3.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development on its 50th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Burke of Brattleboro, Kornheiser of Brattleboro, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senators Balint and White

Whereas, the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development (Prouty Center) in Brattleboro was established in 1969 as one of the first preschool programs in the country for children with special needs, and

Whereas, today, the Prouty Center "provides inclusive education and family support to promote the success of children and families," and

Whereas, among the principles that the center espouses are that "children, families and staff benefit from participating in an environment where everyone feels they belong, where every effort is made to accommodate differences and individual needs, and where everyone's uniqueness is celebrated," and

Whereas, these themes are implemented through collaboration and persistence, and

Whereas, the Winston Prouty Center's onsite Early Learning Center (ELC) received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children and earned a five-star rating from the State of Vermont, and

Whereas, in conjunction with the ELC, the Winston Prouty Center offers community services, such as children's integrated services, family supportive housing, a child care referral program, a child care financial assistance program, a child and adult care food program, and perhaps uniquely, the Early Learning Express Bookmobile, and

Whereas, in 2016, the Winston Prouty Center purchased the 184-acre forested campus of the former Austine School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and in addition to its various buildings, the campus features a system of publicly accessible trails, and

Whereas, the Winston Prouty Center is eagerly anticipating its next half-century of outstanding community service on behalf of young children and their families, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development on its 50th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development in Brattleboro.

H.C.R. 4.

House concurrent resolution honoring Mary Ann Dion for her leadership in the Vermont insurance industry

Offered by: Representative Toof of St. Albans Town

Offered by: Senator Parent

Whereas, for 38 years, Mary Ann Dion served as chief financial officer at the Hickok and Boardman Insurance Group headquartered in Burlington, and

Whereas, during this long and distinguished tenure, she earned the respect of her colleagues both at her agency and more broadly in the Vermont insurance industry, and

Whereas, her intelligence and ability to achieve personal and institutional success were apparent when she graduated magna cum laude from Trinity College, and

Whereas, beginning in 1997, Mary Ann Dion served terms as treasurer, secretary, co-chair, and president of the Champlain Valley Association of Insurance Professionals, and

Whereas, after holding these offices, Mary Ann Dion's positions in the State's insurance profession included Vermont State Custodian and Vermont Council Director, and

Whereas, in addition to these important leadership roles, Mary Ann Dion sat on insurance industry committees related to budgeting, education, fundraising, public relations, and safety, and

Whereas, Mary Ann Dion was honored as a regional winner of the insurance industry's Communication with Confidence Award and was the first person named as the New England Excess Exchange Vermont International Association of Insurance Professionals Member of the Year, and

Whereas, she was known among other insurance professionals as a coach, educator, and mentor, and as a special person to whom they could turn for guidance, and

Whereas, aside from her work in the insurance industry, Mary Ann Dion devoted a quarter of a century to active participation in the annual United Way fund drive, and

Whereas, after 38 years, Mary Ann Dion is stepping down from the Hickok and Boardman staff, concluding an extraordinary career and anticipating sharing more time with her children and grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Mary Ann Dion for her leadership in the Vermont insurance industry, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mary Ann Dion.

H.C.R. 5.

House concurrent resolution honoring Trevor Whipple on the completion of his extraordinary law enforcement career

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Killacky of South Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, and Townsend of South Burlington

Whereas, Trevor Whipple's introduction to the law enforcement profession was as a teenage civil cadet in Littleton, New Hampshire, and

Whereas, as a Barre City patrol officer in the 1980s, Trevor Whipple voluntarily worked with children in the city's schools, and

Whereas, Trevor Whipple was one of the first Vermont law enforcement officers to participate in the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, was associated with the State's first child advocacy center, and became a skilled investigator of crimes perpetrated against children, and

Whereas, another significant role for Trevor Whipple was his involvement in the first Special Investigation Unit in Washington County, and

Whereas, in 1999, he was appointed Barre City Police Chief, and

Whereas, in 2006, the City of South Burlington selected Trevor Whipple to lead this Chittenden County community's police force and, once again, his departmental leadership was outstanding, and

Whereas, in South Burlington, he sought opportunities to better understand mental illness and its impact on individuals and families, raised awareness about suicide among law enforcement, and made mental health and wellness resources available to his officers, and

Whereas, he was a leader in convening representatives from six Chittenden County municipalities and Howard Center staff for a collaboration that resulted in an outreach program partnering mental health providers with first responders to provide better support services for individuals experiencing mental health crises, needing social services, or both, and

Whereas, Trevor Whipple's enduring passion for assisting crime victims was apparent to the citizens of his employing cities as well as to State law enforcement officials, and in recognition of this special societal contribution, on April 13, 2018, he was honored with the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services' Lifetime Achievement Award, and

Whereas, South Burlington Police Chief Trevor Whipple recently retired from the department, but has assumed a new post, bringing his criminal justice expertise to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives: That the General Assembly honors Trevor Whipple on the completion of his extraordinary law enforcement career, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Trevor Whipple and to the South Burlington Police Department.

H.C.R. 6.

House concurrent resolution designating January 16, 2019 as Homelessness Awareness Day at the State House

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Waterbury, Pugh of South Burlington, and Krowinski of Burlington

Whereas, being deprived of a permanent place to live is an indignity that far too many Vermont families, single adults, youths, and children continue to endure, and

Whereas, the severe early-life impediments homeless children encounter can result in long-term consequences, and

Whereas, homeless singles often struggle with physical and mental health challenges, as well as substance abuse, and

Whereas, according to the 2018 Point-In-Time Count Report, 1,291 Vermonters, 23 percent of whom were children, were homeless on a single day in January 2018, an increase of 5 percent over 2017; 12 percent were adults currently fleeing domestic or sexual violence; 139, or 12 more than in 2017, were chronically homeless; and 25 percent had a severe mental illness, and

Whereas, despite the statewide increase in the number of homeless Vermonters, the number of homeless persons in Rutland County decreased from 183 to 114 and the Lamoille County decrease was from 64 to 24, and

Whereas, other encouraging indicators were two subgroup decreases in homelessness: 11 percent among youths ages 12 to 24 and 18 percent for persons with a substance use-related disorder, and

Whereas, the Vermont Housing Opportunity Grant Program's Annual Report for fiscal year 2018 documented that the average length of stay in publicly funded shelters was 50 days, the longest in over 16 years, indicating that significant barriers, including rental affordability and availability, prevent Vermonters without homes from accessing permanent housing, and

Whereas, the continued degree of homelessness, especially among children, youths, people fleeing domestic violence, persons with disabilities, and those who are chronically homeless, remains a public policy concern of great importance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly, while recognizing that much work remains to be done, applauds the progress of Vermont's housing and homeless service organizations in addressing homelessness and designates January 16, 2019 as Homelessness Awareness Day at the State House, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness, the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance, and the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition.

S.C.R. 1.

By Senators Sears and Ashe,

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Boston Red Sox on winning the 2018 World Series.

Whereas, from early on in the 2018 baseball season, the BoSox, as many New Englanders commonly refer to their venerable major league baseball team, exhibited exceptional skills both at the plate and in the field, and

Whereas, Boston concluded the regular season with a team record of 108 victories, clinching the American League's Eastern Division title and becoming the first 2018 regular season divisional winner, and

Whereas, the American League Division Series (ALDS) had the Red Sox confronting the team's perpetual nemesis, the New York Yankees, known to some BoSox fans as the evil empire, and

Whereas, after Boston won the opening game in the friendly confines of Fenway Park, the Yankees evened the series before the two teams headed for the third and fourth contests in the Big Apple, and

Whereas, in game three, the BoSox inundated the Bronx Bombers with a plethora of base hits as Boston overwhelmed the Yankees 16–1, and then proceeded to win the next evening's game, earning a berth in the American League Championship Series (ALCS), and

Whereas, in the ALCS, the defending World Series champions, the Houston Astros, made an initially persuasive bid for returning to baseball's pivotal fall classic, winning the opening contest 7–2; but the Astro's hopes dissipated as Boston's bats ignited for four consecutive victories and a ticket to the World Series, and

Whereas, the 2018 World Series was a transcontinental affair featuring the Red Sox and the Los Angeles Dodgers, and

Whereas, the BoSox thrilled their elated hometown fans by winning the opening two games before traveling to Los Angeles for further World Series competition, and

Whereas, in game three, the two teams battled each other for 18 innings, equaling seven hours and 20 minutes, both World Series records, before the Dodgers won this nearly endless encounter 3–2, but the invigorated Red Sox won games four and five to capture the 2018 World Series title, and

Whereas, Boston's Steve Pearce was named the World Series Most Valuable Player, teammate Mookie Betts was honored as the American League Most Valuable Player for 2018, and first-year manager Alex Cora helped bring great joy to the Red Sox Nation, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2018 World Series champion Boston Red Sox, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Boston Red Sox.