

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

House Resolution

H.R. 12

House resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Town of Royalton

Offered by: Representative O'Brien of Tunbridge

Whereas, prior to the 1777 adoption of Vermont's declaration of independence, both New Hampshire and New York laid claim to the territory that today is the State of Vermont, and

Whereas, in November 1769, New York Royal Lieutenant Governor Cadwallader Colden issued a charter for the Town of Royalton, comprising land adjacent to the White River and for which New Hampshire had not issued a similar document, and

Whereas, the first recorded permanent settlers were members of the Robert Havens family, who arrived in 1771, and

Whereas, on October 16, 1780, British forces launched an attack on settlers living along the White River, destroying the community of Royalton and killing several area residents, and

Whereas, the residents of Royalton, desirous of retaining their resettled municipality, petitioned for a Vermont town charter reestablishing the Town of Royalton, which the General Assembly granted on December 20, 1781, and

Whereas, the first post office in Royalton was established before Vermont statehood, and in 1848, the town welcomed the arrival of the Central Vermont Railroad, and

Whereas, the birthplace memorial of Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon Church, is in Royalton, and Frederick Billings was a Royalton native whose enduring contribution to Vermont's landscape is memorialized at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and

Whereas, Royalton is home to Vermont Law School, the State's only school of law, and

Whereas, in 2019, the robust Town of Royalton comprises the settlements of North Royalton or Foxville, Royalton, and South Royalton and is proud of its 250-year history, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body commemorates the 250th anniversary of the Town of Royalton, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Royalton Town Clerk and the Royalton Historical Society.