

No. R-180. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the New Yorkers' capture and the Bennington posse's rescue of early Arlington leader and pre-Revolutionary War patriot Remember Baker Jr.

(H.C.R.116)

Offered by: Representatives James of Manchester, Bongartz of Manchester, Brownell of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, Nigro of Bennington, Pajala of Londonderry, Sullivan of Dorset, and Whitman of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Remember Baker was born in Woodbury, Connecticut (later renamed Roxbury), in 1737, and, in 1764, he became one of the second wave of settlers in the Town of Arlington (a New Hampshire grant town), and, later, served as an Arlington Town Clerk, and

Whereas, on July 20, 1764, British authorities declared the land now consisting of the State of Vermont to be under New York's, and not New Hampshire's, colonial jurisdiction, and

Whereas, some of the New Hampshire grant towns tried, but failed, to repurchase the land rights from the New York authorities, and Remember Baker, his cousins, Ira and Ethan Allen, and others formed a defensive organization, later known as the Green Mountain Boys, to protect against encroachment by New York authorities, and

Whereas, Remember Baker drew the particular ire of New York authorities for threatening and ejecting New York land grant holders, and

Whereas, on March 21, 1772, a New York-appointed justice of the peace, John Munro, staged a predawn attack on Remember Baker's home, wounding Baker, his wife, and their children, and Munro's posse then proceeded to bring Baker, on a sleigh, to face New York justice in Albany, and

Whereas, neighbors Caleb Henderson and John Whiston attempted to stop the sleigh, failed, and Whiston was captured, and, learning of these events, a group of Bennington residents headed out to intercept Munro's entourage, and

Whereas, the Bennington rescuers arrived first at the Hudson River ferry crossing (now the site of Troy, New York), reversed course towards Arlington, intercepted Munro, and rescued the barely alive Baker and Whiston, and

Whereas, Baker recovered, but was killed in 1775 while on a scouting expedition in what is now Canada, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the New Yorkers' capture and Bennington posse's rescue of early Arlington leader and pre-Revolutionary War patriot Remember Baker Jr., and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Arlington Town Clerk.