

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 168

House concurrent resolution in memory of former House Majority Leader Willem Westpalm van Hoorn Jewett of Ripton

Offered by: Representative Conlon of Cornwall

Whereas, Willem Jewett will be remembered as an effective legislator known for his unique laugh, and his passion for the issues he held dear, and

Whereas, his youthful enthusiasm for skiing and long-distance cycling, especially competitive road racing, was lifelong, and

Whereas, prior to embarking on a successful legal career, Willem Jewett captained the championship alpine ski team at his alma mater, Bowdoin College, and graduated from Lewis & Clark School of Law, and

Whereas, his 1998 election to the Ripton School Board preceded seven terms in the House of Representatives (from 2003 to 2017), where he served on the Judiciary, Government Operations, and Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Committees, and was instrumental in legislative enactments on judicial reorganization, mountain search-and-rescue protocols, and legislative redistricting, and

Whereas, in December 2012, his fellow Democrats elected him House Majority Leader, and he served as an effective substitute at the Speaker's podium, and as a passionate advocate for his party's policy positions, while injecting a tad of mischief into the legislative process, and

Whereas, having been diagnosed with a second type of cancer, Willem Jewett decided to conclude his life, in the presence of his wife, Ellen, his children and other family members, under the provisions of Vermont's medical assistance death statute, a law he sought to update in the months prior to his passing, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of former House Majority Leader Willem Westpalm van Hoorn Jewett of Ripton, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Willem Jewett.