

# State of Vermont

## Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

### Senate Concurrent Resolution

By Senators Campion and Sears,

By Representatives Corcoran of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Nigro of Bennington, and Whitman of Bennington

**S.C.R. 17.** Senate concurrent resolution honoring John Shannahan for his extraordinary contributions to the economic and cultural life of the Town of Bennington.

*Whereas*, John Shannahan sparked an exciting new vitality in Bennington, and

*Whereas*, his effective institutional leadership at the Downtown Bennington Alliance, and later at the Better Bennington Corporation, reflected a strong dedication to creating a welcoming and nurturing climate in which existing businesses can expand and new ones be established, and

*Whereas*, John Shannahan's role as Bennington's ambassador extraordinaire was pivotal in discussions with out-of-town corporate officials, when testifying before legislative committees, and when working with funding organizations, and

*Whereas*, as executive director of the Better Bennington Corporation, John Shannahan promoted a vision of Bennington as a center for artistic, business, entertainment, and recreational activities, and as a community whose downtown exudes an authentic small-town Vermont "Main Street" character, and

*Whereas*, during his tenure at the Better Bennington Corporation, a Tax-Increment Financing district was established, creating a taxing mechanism that provides economic incentives for new development initiatives, and

*Whereas*, the Putnam Block Redevelopment project has attracted new businesses and residents to downtown Bennington, and John Shannahan's expert guidance was a critical element in the project's creation and fruition, and

*Whereas*, he served on the board of the Bennington Area Arts Council and was a unique informational resource for newcomers to the community, and

*Whereas*, John Shannahan has concluded his role as the executive director of the Better Bennington Corporation, and Benningtonians are grateful for his impactful community service, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly honors John Shannahan for his extraordinary contributions to the economic and cultural vitality of the Town of Bennington, and be it further

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John Shannahan and the Better Bennington Corporation.