

No. R-323. Senate concurrent resolution honoring the nearly four decades of conscientious legislative service of former Vermont Senate Dean Richard T. Mazza of Colchester.

(S.C.R.17)

By All Members of the Senate,

Whereas, in 1973, Representative Dick Mazza arrived in Montpelier to represent the Chittenden 14-3 district, succeeding his father, the late former Representative Joseph Mazza Sr., and

Whereas, during his two-term House tenure, Representative Mazza served on the Committee on Highways and its successor the Committee on Transportation, introducing him to matters destined later to dominate his legislative life, and

Whereas, in 1984, Howard Dean persuaded Richard Mazza to run for the Grand Isle District Senate seat, and his electoral victory ushered in a remarkable 39 years—the second longest in Vermont history—of uninterrupted Senate service, and

Whereas, Senator Richard Mazza served mornings on the Committee on Transportation and afternoons on the Committee on Institutions, and

Whereas, he became familiar with the roadways, railways, and airports in Vermont; and, beginning in 1991, he expertly chaired the Committee on Transportation, shepherding the annual transportation bill and successfully championing the resumption of Amtrak service, and

Whereas, Senator Mazza assisted in the development of the annual capital construction and bonding legislation and was a strong advocate for preserving the Long Trail, and

Whereas, since 1997, as the third member of the Committee on Committees, Senator Mazza was intimately involved in key decisions on the membership of standing, conference, and special committees, and

Whereas, aside from these official roles, Senator Richard Mazza was a passionate promoter of civility and mutual respect in the Senate, setting a dignified atmosphere; and his recent resignation due to health reasons and in the best interests of his constituents was received with sadness and expressions of good wishes, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the nearly four decades of conscientious legislative service of former Vermont Senate Dean Richard T. Mazza of Colchester, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to former Senator Richard Mazza.