

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House Concurrent  
Resolutions**

**of**

**May 11, 2023**

## **Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rules 16a -16d**

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration in the member's chamber prior to adjournment of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Senate Secretary's Office or the House Clerk's Office, as applicable.

### **Resolutions**

#### **H.C.R. 115**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the University of Vermont Catamounts women's basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship

Offered by: Representatives Ode of Burlington, Jerome of Brandon, Priestley of Bradford, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senator Baruth

Whereas, after finishing an outstanding regular season of competition, including an impressive 17-game winning streak commencing on January 4, 2023, the top-seeded Catamounts confidently entered the America East Conference championship series, and

Whereas, after defeating eighth-seeded Bryant University and fourth-seeded University of Maryland, Baltimore County, the Catamounts met their most challenging America East opponent in the concluding game, the second-seeded State University of New York at Albany Great Danes, and

Whereas, although comfortably leading through most of the contest, the Catamounts resorted to an intensive defense strategy for the final quarter, securing a 38–36 victory and the No. 15 berth in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) March Madness championship tournament, and

Whereas, despite succumbing 95–52 to the No. 2 University of Connecticut in a first-round NCAA game played in Storrs, Connecticut, Catamounts Ary Dizon, Carla Celaya, Andjela Matic, Bella Vito, Nika Kurdija, Keira Hanson, Paula Gonzalez, Catherine Gilwee, Maria Myklebust, Marissa McDonald, Emma Utterback, Anna Olson, Nikola Priede, Delaney Richason, and Carly Whiteside completed a great 25–7 season, and

Whereas, Head Coach Alisa Kresge (the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Division I Women's Basketball Coach of the Year), Associate

Head Coach Dominique Bryant, and assistant coaches Will Lanier and Nevena Markovic provided expert guidance to the team, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the University of Vermont Catamounts women's basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the University of Vermont Office of Athletics.

### **H.C.R. 116**

House concurrent resolution honoring the youth division snowboarders and skiers who represented Vermont with distinction at the 2023 United States of America Snowboard and Freeski Association National Championships

Offered by: Representatives Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Anthony of Barre City, Arsenault of Williston, Bartley of Fairfax, Boyden of Cambridge, Brumsted of Shelburne, Burke of Brattleboro, Buss of Woodstock, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Chapin of East Montpelier, Chase of Chester, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cina of Burlington, Demrow of Corinth, Dodge of Essex, Donahue of Northfield, Galfetti of Barre Town, Garofano of Essex, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Headrick of Burlington, Hyman of South Burlington, Lipsky of Stowe, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Mihaly of Calais, Nicoll of Ludlow, Ode of Burlington, Oliver of Sheldon, Peterson of Clarendon, Pouech of Hinesburg, Priestley of Bradford, Sibilia of Dover, Sims of Craftsbury, Small of Winooski, Stone of Burlington, and Taylor of Milton

Whereas, the United States of America Snowboard and Freeski Association (USASA) held its 2023 national championships from March 31 to April 12, 2023, at Copper Mountain, Colorado, and it featured divisions supporting athletes of all ages and abilities, and

Whereas, 21 Vermont youth-division athletes represented the State in the giant slalom, slalom, half-pipe, slopestyle, and boarder/ski cross events, and they were among almost 2,000 athletes present from around the country, and

Whereas, many of these Vermonters excelled on the snowy trails and won 2023 USASA national championship gold and silver medals, and

Whereas, the Vermonters who competed in the youth division were Marlee Anderson of Jeffersonville, Kendall Batdorf of Williston, Jack Bartlett of Stowe, Pfeiffer Blais of Stowe, Cal Caputo of Burlington, Pax Draugelis of Morrisville, August Enos of Eden Mills, Fox Goldman of Bolton, Trevor Goldman of Bolton, Haley Comet Goff of Jay, Oliver Goodrich of Chelsea, Owen Goodrich of Chelsea, Sydney Howard of Bolton, Violet Ksiazek of Waterville, Madison Lacy of Shelburne, David McLaughlin of Stowe, Jack Nava of Montpelier, Skyler Jean Nunez-Alvarez of

West Dover, Domenick Pitone of Bolton Valley, James Ryan of Stowe, Tucker Ryan of Stowe, Dylan Schaeffer of Morristown, Lukas Schaeffer of Morristown, Cassidy Thompson of Bolton, Rex Wise of Stowe, Brooks Witham of Underhill, and Zev Wysocki of Killington, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the youth division snowboarders and skiers who represented Vermont with distinction at the 2023 United States of America Snowboard and Freeski Association National Championships, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each person honored in this resolution.

### **H.C.R. 117**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the University of Vermont Catamounts men's basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship

Offered by: Representatives Ode of Burlington, Jerome of Brandon, Priestley of Bradford, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senator Baruth

Whereas, starting on January 19, 2023, the University of Vermont Catamounts men's basketball team launched an enviable streak of 15 consecutive victories, finishing as the top regular-season America East competitor and as the corresponding first seed for the conference's championship tournament, and

Whereas, in the decisive game of the tournament, played at Patrick Gymnasium against the second-seeded University of Massachusetts Lowell River Hawks, the Catamounts rebounded from a 29–25 halftime deficit to win the game decisively, 72–59, and clinch the school's 10th America East crown, and

Whereas, the America East title earned UVM the No. 15 seed at the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) March Madness playoffs, and

Whereas, although the No. 2 Marquette University Golden Eagles defeated UVM 78–61 in a first-round NCAA game played in Columbus, Ohio, the Catamounts concluded a memorable 23–11 season, and the entire squad, consisting of Ileri Ayo-Faleye, Aaron Deloney, Sam Alamutu, TJ Hurley, Kam Gibson, Perry Smith Jr., Dylan Penn, Jackson Skipper, Finn Sullivan, Matt Veretto, Michel Ndayishimiye, Nick Fiorillo, Jorge Ochoa, and Robin Duncan, was amazing, and

Whereas, Head Coach John Becker, who has won more America East Conference championships than any other coach in league history, Associate Head Coach Ryan Schneider, and assistant coaches Chris Santo, Bryson Johnson, and Derryk O’Grady were proud of the team’s achievements, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the University of Vermont Catamounts men’s basketball team on winning the 2023 America East Conference championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Office of Athletics at the University of Vermont.

### **H.C.R. 118**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Northfield Junior Rifle team on completing a memorable and successful 2022–2023 competitive season

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield and Goslant of Northfield

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Perchlik, and Watson

Whereas, among the many clubs in the Vermont State Rifle & Pistol Association, the Northfield Junior Rifle Club is the last school-associated rifle team in Vermont, and its membership is composed of students as young as seventh graders, predominantly female, and

Whereas, these youngsters learn critical safety rules and the importance of focusing when practicing or competing on a shooting range, and

Whereas, team members must travel to New Hampshire for competitions, but this logistical reality did not hinder their superb performance during the 2022–2023 season, which included clinching the meet championship in Hudson, New Hampshire, where Northfield team members individually won one gold in the junior classification, one gold in the sub-junior division, one gold in the intermediate junior category, and one overall bronze, and

Whereas, as a result of the team’s victory in Hudson, New Hampshire, it earned a berth at the 2023 Junior Rifle Olympics held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, a thrilling new stratum of competition for the entire team, and

Whereas, despite encountering older and more experienced teams, the Vermonters represented the Green Mountain State honorably and with distinction, proudly achieving many personal-best scores, and

Whereas, these skilled young athletes (and the length of time they've been team members) are Taylor Baroffio (nine years), Sophia Ashford (five years), Abby Demas (two years), Hailey DeLary (two years), Savanna Larkin (eight months), Luke Larkin (eight months), Lindsey Cross (eight months), and Henry Brown (eight months), and their superb head coach, Bruce Baroffio, was thrilled, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Northfield Junior Rifle team on completing a memorable and successful 2022–2023 competitive season, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Northfield Junior Rifle Club.

### **H.C.R. 119**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2023 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Science Olympiad team on its multi-medal-winning achievements

Offered by: Representatives Beck of St. Johnsbury, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, and Farlice-Rubio of Barnet

Offered by: Senator Kitchel

Whereas, Science Olympiad is the premier elementary, middle, and high school Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) competition in the nation, and tournaments are held in all 50 states, and

Whereas, for the 2022–2023 school year, the University of Vermont (UVM) Extension's 4-H Youth Programs organized the Vermont Science Olympiad and hosted the State tournament on the UVM campus in Burlington, and

Whereas, enrollment in Science Olympiad entails a six-month commitment to attend weekly meetings, engage in research, and participate in practice competitions, both in-person and virtual, and

Whereas, the dedication of the Hilltoppers to the Science Olympiad paid lucrative dividends in the tournament's high school division as they won six gold medals (Anatomy and Physiology, Bridge (design and construction), Codebusters, Disease Detective, Environmental Chemistry, and Forensics); five silver medals (Cell Biology, Experimental Design, Forestry, Green Generation, and Trajectory); and one bronze medal (Remote Sensing), and

Whereas, the members of the St. Johnsbury Academy team who performed superbly were Ashley Chen, Uma Chirkova, Maaiké Dam, Zhi Isabel Adeline

Howes, Muzaffar Hussein, Kanan Gasimov, Estelle Kokernot, Ava Massoni, Dolma Sherpa, Hanson Tsai, Zetong Lydia Wang, James WaiBong Wong, Lily Weber, and Yubo Zhang, and faculty advisor Edwin Eckel was proud of these exemplary STEM students, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2023 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Science Olympiad team on its multi-medal-winning achievements, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.

**H.C.R. 120**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Thetford Town Clerk and Treasurer Tracy Borst as the first Vermont and New England recipient of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' Institute Directors Award of Excellence

Offered by: Representatives Masland of Thetford and Holcombe of Norwich

Offered by: Senators MacDonald, Clarkson, McCormack, and White

Whereas, in 2003, when Tracy Borst's youngest child was approaching school age and Tracy was contemplating returning to the workforce, a friend suggested that she stand for election as Thetford Town Clerk, and she wisely followed this advice, and

Whereas, her enthusiasm for the post was immediately apparent, and she pursued the educational opportunities that the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association (VMCTA) offered, becoming a Certified Municipal Clerk in 2004, and in 2020, through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, she earned the profession's highest certification, Master Municipal Clerk, and

Whereas, her VMCTA colleagues recognized her skill, and she chaired the organization's education committee, served on its executive committee, and in 2021–2022 was the outstanding VMCTA president, and

Whereas, for the past two decades, Tracy Borst has been a consistent presence in the Thetford municipal government and has offered invaluable guidance and support to selectboard members and the town manager, and she is the community's unofficial central information resource, and

Whereas, in 2018, Tracy Borst assumed the additional role of Thetford Town Treasurer, and in 2021, she earned VMCTA's Vermont Treasurer certification and continued forward toward the more advanced treasurer's certification, and

Whereas, Tracy Borst is an exemplary municipal official who sets the gold standard for her peers across the State, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Thetford Town Clerk and Treasurer Tracy Borst as the first Vermont and New England recipient of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' Institute Directors Award of Excellence, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tracy Borst.

### **H.C.R. 121**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2023 Burlington High School Seahorses championship Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl team and wishing the students every success in their forthcoming national competitions

Offered by: Representatives Ode of Burlington, Bluemle of Burlington, Cina of Burlington, Headrick of Burlington, Hooper of Burlington, Krowinski of Burlington, Logan of Burlington, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Stebbins of Burlington, and Stone of Burlington

Offered by: Senators Baruth, Chittenden, Gulick, Lyons, Ram Hinsdale, and Vyhovsky

Whereas, the Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl challenges students with questions derived from a broad spectrum of topics, and

Whereas, during the regular Scholars' Bowl season, each of the Seahorses' three teams maintained strong winning records, and

Whereas, for the State championship tournament, held at the State House in Montpelier, Burlington High School, and each of the other participating schools, sent a single team of the most skilled Scholars' Bowl contestants, and

Whereas, the Seahorses were successful in the quarterfinals, defeating Rice Memorial High School (320–260); in the semifinals, surpassing Champlain Valley Union High School (420–310); and, in the finals, outscoring Essex High School (405–230) and capturing the State championship, and



Whereas, the victorious Seahorses who earned Burlington High School's seventh Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl State championship were Robert Safran, Ezra Case, Isaac Doggett, Daniel McNamara, Quinn Shelley, and Clare McNamara, and Head Coach Kevin Commo proved a superb teacher, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2023 Burlington High School Seahorses championship Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl team and wishes the students every success in their forthcoming national competitions, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Burlington High School.

### **H.C.R. 122**

House concurrent resolution in memory of University of Vermont Professor Emeritus Samuel B. Feitelberg of Shelburne

Offered by: Representatives Brumsted of Shelburne and Lalley of Shelburne

Whereas, Sam Feitelberg received his bachelor's degree, a certificate of physical therapy, and a master's degree from Columbia University, and he later earned a certificate of labor administration from Harvard University, and

Whereas, following military service, he became chief pediatric therapist at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, started as a physical therapy instructor at Columbia University in 1959, and in 1965, the Downstate Medical Center of the State University of New York appointed him chair of physical therapy, and

Whereas, in 1969, Sam Feitelberg established and then directed the physical therapy program at the University of Vermont, and from 1997 to 2011, he performed similar responsibilities at Clarkson University, and

Whereas, he held several senior leadership roles in the American Physical Therapy Association, and the organization repeatedly honored him, and

Whereas, Sam Feitelberg promoted cultural diversity and strove to create academic opportunities for students from marginalized backgrounds, and

Whereas, his innovative work with NASA benefited Parkinson's disease therapy, he was instrumental in Rotary International's establishment of a children's rehabilitation center in Honduras, and he played a key role in the construction of the Shelburne Veterans Memorial, and

Whereas, Sam Feitelberg, a distinguished academic, caring community leader, and greatly admired human being died on March 16, 2023, at 93 years of age, and his survivors include Gail, his wife of nearly 70 years, and his children and grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of University of Vermont Professor Emeritus Samuel B. Feitelberg, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 123**

House concurrent resolution honoring William Boyd Davies for more than four decades of insightfully moderating the Northeast Kingdom Legislative Breakfast Series in Newport

Offered by: Representatives Page of Newport City, Higley of Lowell, Labor of Morgan, Marcotte of Coventry, Sims of Craftsbury, Smith of Derby, and Templeman of Brownington

Offered by: Senators Ingalls and Starr

Whereas, community forums where State legislators can engage with their constituents on the issues of the day are of great civic importance, and

Whereas, at these venues, voters gain an improved familiarity with the major topics currently being deliberated at the State House, and conversely, legislators learn their constituents' opinions on these matters, and

Whereas, a model example of such gatherings is the Northeast Kingdom Legislative Breakfast Series, convened every spring in Newport, and

Whereas, for over 40 years, William Davies has moderated these eagerly anticipated sessions, and he always ensures that they are most informative and timely and that they epitomize the highest standard of civil discourse, and

Whereas, William Davies facilitates a community dialogue that showcases the vibrancy of democracy in Vermont and especially in the Northeast Kingdom, and

Whereas, the attendees at these programs are grateful to William Davies for his many years serving in this special role, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors William Boyd Davies for more than four decades of insightfully moderating the Northeast Kingdom Legislative Breakfast Series in Newport, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to William Davies.

### **H.C.R. 124**

House concurrent resolution congratulating St. Peter Roman Catholic Church of Rutland on the 150th anniversary of the construction of its home

Offered by: Representatives Howard of Rutland City, Andriano of Orwell, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clifford of Rutland City, Harrison of Chittenden, Jerome of Brandon, Maguire of Rutland City, McCoy of Poultney, Nicoll of Ludlow, Notte of Rutland City, Peterson of Clarendon, Sammis of Castleton, and Shaw of Pittsford

Offered by: Senators Collamore and Williams

Whereas, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington was founded in 1853, and St. Peter Parish in Rutland, established in 1855, is the mother parish of the Roman Catholic community in the Rutland area, and

Whereas, the original St. Peter Church was built in 1855 on the south end of Meadow Street in Rutland and had, by the late 1860s, become too small due to the growing Roman Catholic population in the region, and

Whereas, in 1869, the Rev. Charles Boylan, the pastor of St. Peter, enlisted the services of ecclesiastical architect Patrick C. Keely of Brooklyn, NY, who designed over 600 churches during his career, to create a plan for a new building to serve the Rutland parishioners, and

Whereas, that same year, ground was broken at the ledge lot on the corner of Meadow and Mechanic Streets, the stone was quarried from the site, and the parishioners, many of whom were employed in the nearby quarries, personally completed much of the work, and

Whereas, the construction process required four years, and Father Boylan implemented the architectural plan meticulously, and

Whereas, on Easter Sunday 1873, Father Boylan joyfully celebrated the first mass in the new St. Peter Church, and the formal consecration of the building occurred on Sunday, June 30, 1873, the date that year of the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, and the Rt. Rev. Louis DeGosbriand, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Burlington, performed the rites of consecration, and

Whereas, Father Boylan died in December of 1886 and was buried next to the church he built and loved, and

Whereas, major renovation and restoration work occurred under the direction of Bishop Robert F. Joyce (1950s), Rev. Msgr. Thomas H. Connor (1970s), and Rev. Wilfred Andre Houle (2000s), and

Whereas, for 150 years, St. Peter Church in Rutland, which since 2006 has been a Capuchin Franciscan ministry, has continued to serve as a physical monument to the faith and dedication of generations of Rutland-area Roman Catholics, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates St. Peter Roman Catholic Church of Rutland on the 150th anniversary of the construction of its home, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Peter Church in Rutland.

### **H.C.R. 125**

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2023 as Jewish American Heritage Month in Vermont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: Senator Kitchel

Whereas, in 1654, after their expulsion from Recife, Brazil, six Jewish families sailed to the Dutch community of New Amsterdam, where, after initial official resistance, they started the first North American Jewish community, and

Whereas, in 1790, President George Washington sent a letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, in which he famously wrote, “For happily the Government of the United States gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens,” and

Whereas, Joshua Vita Montefiore was the first known Jew to settle in Vermont, arriving in 1835, and by the 1840s, a scattering of individual Jews and Jewish families lived in northern Vermont, and

Whereas, the first Jewish community in Vermont was established in Poultney in the 1870s, where it remained until it relocated to Rutland in 1906, and

Whereas, a more enduring Jewish community was established in Burlington in the 1880s, where, in 1885, it established Congregation Ohavi Zedek, the oldest Jewish congregation in the State, and

Whereas, Jewish Americans in Vermont and throughout the nation, despite encountering numerous instances of discrimination, have played leading roles in many fields of endeavor, and

Whereas, in 2006, pursuant to a proclamation that President George W. Bush issued, Jewish American Heritage Month was established, and, in the wake of the sharply rising incidents of antisemitism in the United States—which, according to the Anti-Defamation League, numbered in excess of 3,600 in 2022, the highest since the statistic was first monitored in 1979—an appreciation of the heritage and culture of Jewish Americans becomes especially timely, and

Whereas, President Joseph R. Biden has issued a 2023 proclamation in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month, and various federal cultural institutions are commemorating this observance, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes May 2023 as Jewish American Heritage Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Jewish Communities of Vermont organization.

### **H.C.R. 126**

House concurrent resolution in memory of clinical psychologist and social justice activist Dr. Ann Ellis Reynolds of Pomfret

Offered by: Representatives Christie of Hartford, Cole of Hartford, Holcombe of Norwich, and Surprenant of Barnard

Offered by: Senators Clarkson, McCormack, and White

Whereas, the extraordinary life journey of Dr. Ann Reynolds began with her birth in 1928, and she graduated from the Chapin School, the Westover School, Cornell University, and Goddard College, and

Whereas, in 1965, as a passionate advocate for social justice, she organized the Springfield Head Start Program; served as the co-director of the former Consumer Control Community Child Care Inc., which served Windham and Windsor Counties; and, based on these experiences, she decided to earn a doctorate in clinical psychology at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology (now known as William James College), and

Whereas, in Massachusetts, Ann Reynolds focused on bringing mental health services to the inner-city community of Boston, directing The Family

Project while coordinating with the Roxbury Comprehensive and Whittier Street Community Health Center, and

Whereas, Dr. Ann Reynolds subsequently assumed important roles in Boston as the clinical director of the former Boston City Hospital's Department of Child Psychiatry, in the Department of Child Psychiatry at Beth Israel Hospital (now the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center), and as a lecturer at Boston University and at the Harvard University School of Medicine, and

Whereas, her deep commitment to civil rights, combined with her own work experiences, served her well as an advisor on the PBS civil rights documentary series *Eyes on the Prize* and as a volunteer with the Greater Boston Interfaith Project, and

Whereas, Dr. Ann Reynolds returned to Vermont, worked as a school psychologist, engaged in political advocacy, and saw private patients until shortly prior to her death at 94 years of age on February 28, 2023, and three of her children survive her, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Ann Ellis Reynolds, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 127**

House concurrent resolution recognizing May as Mental Health Awareness Month in Vermont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, one in five adults in the United States experiences mental illness each year, and 104,000 adults in Vermont live with a mental health condition, and

Whereas, according to the Vermont Department of Health, 142 Vermonters lost their lives to suicide in 2021, and the Vermont suicide rate of 20.3 percent was higher than the national suicide rate of 14 percent, and

Whereas, the police arrest one in four Americans with a serious mental illness at some point during the lifetime of those individuals, and, annually, over two million of these Americans are booked into jail, and

Whereas, nationally, two in five adults in jail or prison have a history of mental illness, and seven in ten youths in the juvenile justice system have a mental health condition, and

Whereas, in the United States, high school students with depression are more than twice as likely to drop out than are their peers, and

Whereas, 40.8 percent of Vermonters 12–17 years of age who have depression did not receive any care in the last year, and

Whereas, more than 1,000 persons in Vermont are homeless, and one in three of these persons lives with a serious mental illness, and

Whereas, the area where someone resides plays a significant role in that individual's overall health and well-being, and

Whereas, safe, stable, and healthy home conditions can establish the foundation for the achievement and maintenance of good mental health, and

Whereas, individuals with mental health conditions can lead full and productive lives, and

Whereas, every business, school, government agency, care provider, and Vermonter shares the burden of unmet mental health needs and has a responsibility to promote good mental health and wellness, and

Whereas, in 1949, Mental Health America (formerly known as the National Mental Health Association) designated May as Mental Health Awareness Month, and this occasion merits observance in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes May as Mental Health Awareness Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to NAMI (the National Alliance for Mental Health) Vermont and to the Commissioner of Mental Health.