

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

March 21, 2024

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.

H.C.R. 181

House concurrent resolution recognizing June 24, 2024 as Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Bartley of Fairfax, Burrows of West Windsor, Anthony of Barre City, Austin of Colchester, Black of Essex, Chase of Chester, Christie of Hartford, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Waitsfield, Donahue of Northfield, Galfetti of Barre Town, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Howard of Rutland City, LaBounty of Lyndon, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Ode of Burlington, Oliver of Sheldon, Roberts of Halifax, Shaw of Pittsford, Small of Winooski, Walker of Swanton, and White of Bethel

Offered by: Senator Gulick

Whereas, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, a legal holiday in the Province of Québec, commemorates the traditional feast of St. John the Baptist, and Franco-American communities, especially in New England, conduct unofficial celebrations, and

Whereas, in 1834, French-Canadian businessman Ludger Duvernay attended St. Patrick's Day festivities in Montreal, and he was inspired to establish a comparable holiday to celebrate French-Canadian pride, and, on June 24, 1834, the first Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day was observed, and

Whereas, late-19th-century Franco-American communities, especially in New England, held Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day celebrations that could be elaborate, and

Whereas, since 1977, Saint-Jean-Baptiste commemorations in Quebec have also been known as La Fête nationale du Quebec, in order to emphasize both Quebecois culture and the Province of Quebec's political autonomy, and

Whereas, observances in the contemporary United States are festive, if not as extravagant as those held in the late 19th century, and are known as Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, Franco-American Day, or Franco-American Heritage Day, and they promote both Franco-American culture and the community's strong ties to the United States, and

Whereas, nearly a quarter of Vermonters are of French-Canadian heritage, and an official recognition of Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day would honor their many outstanding societal contributions to our State, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes June 24, 2024 as Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Canadian Club in Barre and to the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society in Essex Junction.

H.C.R. 182

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II championship girls' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Andrews of Westford, Andriano of Orwell, Sammis of Castleton, and Toof of St. Albans Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Bray, Hardy, Weeks, and Williams

Whereas, the crowd at the Barre Auditorium witnessed an exciting 2024 Division II championship girls' basketball game between the top-seeded North Country Falcons and the second-seeded Fair Haven Slaters, in which both teams shared the spotlight with streaks of offensive action, and

Whereas, the first quarter was the Falcons' opportunity to shine, but Fair Haven Head Coach Kyle Wilson requested two pivotal timeouts, which he used to motivate the Slaters and guide them on a more productive course, and

Whereas, although the Slaters showed great promise in the second quarter, they departed from the court at the halftime break still 12 points in arrears, and

Whereas, a midgame reassessment proved decisive as Fair Haven assumed its first lead late in the third quarter and ultimately emerged on top, 55–50, after a strong team effort, as the Slaters clinched Fair Haven's third outright Division II girls' basketball crown and concluded with a victorious 20–4 season record, and

Whereas, the triumphant Slaters were Elizabeth Love, Orianna Kerr, Lily Briggs, Maddy Perry, Kate Hadwen, Kirsten Parker, Riley Babbie, Audrey Perry, Isabelle Cole, Brianna Cathcart, and Victoria Kelly, and

Whereas, Head Coach Kyle Wilson, assistant coaches Leo Hutchins, Jay Wilson, Chad Wilson, and Henry Daley, as well as team managers Storm

Graton and Maddie Egan were each delighted with this great performance on the hardwood court, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2024 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II championship girls' basketball team, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 183

House concurrent resolution designating March 28, 2024 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House

Offered by: Representative Noyes of Wolcott

Offered by: Senator Brock

Whereas, Alzheimer's disease is a degenerative brain disease, the most common form of dementia, and nationally affects 6.9 million Americans aged 65 and older, and

Whereas, the national cost of caring for those with Alzheimer's or other dementias is projected to be \$360 billion in 2024, and

Whereas, Vermont's per capita Medicare spending on people with dementia is \$23,329, and

Whereas, Vermont's Alzheimer's disease mortality rate is the third highest in the nation, and

Whereas, the older population is the State's fastest growing demographic, and approximately one in nine persons 65 years of age and older has Alzheimer's, and

Whereas, 19,000 Vermonters provide an estimated 28 million hours of unpaid Alzheimer's care valued at \$615 million, and

Whereas, caregiving for individuals living with Alzheimer's or other dementias takes an enormous toll, and dementia caregivers suffer more stress, depression, and health problems than caregivers for other illnesses, and

Whereas, the total lifetime cost of care for someone with Alzheimer's or other dementias is estimated at several hundred thousand dollars, and family caregivers assume a large percentage of these costs, and

Whereas, advocates are visiting the State House today to raise awareness of the challenges associated with navigating Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 28, 2024 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

H.C.R. 184

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Desorcie family on 60 years of wonderful and continuous family ownership of Desorcie's Market in Highgate Center

Offered by: Representatives Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, and Laroche of Franklin

Offered by: Senators Brock and Norris

Whereas, since 1994, under the enthusiastic proprietorship of David Desorcie, Desorcie's Market, located at the intersection of Route 78 and St. Armand Road in Highgate Center, has been a commercial and social hub, and

Whereas, Joe Desorcie, the father of David Desorcie, purchased the store in 1964, renaming it, first, Joe & Kitty's and, later, Desorcie's ABC, and

Whereas, the comprehensive history of this thriving retail family enterprise began in 1910 when Alcide Dussault owned and operated the store; in 1919, Joseph Amedee (J.A.) Tremblay assumed ownership and named the market J.A. Tremblay's General Store; in 1938, J.A. Tremblay entered into a partnership with his brother Gerard, and the business became Tremblay Brothers; in 1948, J.A.'s son, Antonio Joseph Tremblay, purchased the business; and, in 1962, a cousin, Pamphile Tremblay, became the new owner, and, with his wife, Armande, and their son Gilbert, continued the Tremblay family tradition until 1964, and

Whereas, in the summer of 1938, the local U.S. Post Office moved into the store, and J.A. Tremblay was commissioned Highgate's U.S. Postmaster on October 6, 1938, a role he retained until December 30, 1965, even though, in 1961, the U.S. Post Office had relocated to a new J.A. Tremblay building, and

Whereas, in 2024, Desorcie's Market sells its customers freshly cut meats and a wide spectrum of edible and other products; offers home delivery for patrons unable to travel personally to the store; caters church, school, and

other organizational events; and is a lively community gathering spot serving as a special local landmark and greatly valued general store, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Desorcie family on 60 years of wonderful and continuous family ownership of Desorcie's Market in Highgate Center, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Desorcie's Market.

H.C.R. 185

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Thetford Academy Panthers Division III championship boys' basketball team

Offered by: Representatives Masland of Thetford and Holcombe of Norwich

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

Whereas, the second-seeded Thetford Academy Panthers learned the importance of perseverance when they overcame a 20-point deficit to defeat third-ranked White River Valley in the semifinal Division III playoff game, and

Whereas, that challenging episode prepared the Panthers to tackle a 10-point deficit (34–24) a minute into the third quarter of the championship contest played at the Barre Auditorium against top-seeded Hazen Union, and

Whereas, the Panthers' 19–6 third-quarter explosion still enabled Hazen to tie the score at 47–all with three minutes and 42 seconds remaining, but when the fourth quarter concluded, Thetford celebrated with a well-deserved 57–53 victory, the school's third boys' basketball title during the past six years, and

Whereas, the excited Panthers were Matthew Vivian, Liam Murphy, Hunter Clay, Dempsey McGovern, Dillon Vance, Mitchell Parkman, Matthew McGovern, Tommy Amber, Sam Parkman, Connor Sloop, Spencer Durkee, and Xander Oshoniyi, and

Whereas, Head Coach Jason Gray, assistant coaches Alex Emerson, Owen Deffner, and Andy Martin, as well as team manager Evan Patterson were proud of their highly focused team of student athletes, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2024 Thetford Academy Panthers Division III championship boys' basketball team, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 186

House concurrent resolution celebrating the centennial of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Ireland and the United States and the continuing enthusiastic and warm friendship between the two nations

Offered by: Representatives Casey of Montpelier, Burke of Brattleboro, Maguire of Rutland City, Morris of Springfield, and Roberts of Halifax

Whereas, the scope of relationships between Ireland and the United States assumed a new dimension in the 20th century, expanding beyond family ties to encompass the diplomatic sphere, and

Whereas, the 1916 Easter Monday Rebellion, although short in duration, laid the foundation for the Irish War of Independence (1919–1921), which concluded with the signing of the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty, creating the Irish Free State (since 1949, the Republic of Ireland), and

Whereas, the Irish Free State officially came into existence on December 6, 1922, exactly one year after the signing of the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty, and

Whereas, on June 28, 1924, U.S. Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes formally declared that the United States would welcome to Washington, DC, an accredited Minister Plenipotentiary to represent the interests of the Irish Free State, and, on October 7, 1924, Timothy A. Smiddy presented his credentials in Washington, DC, becoming the first Irish diplomat to represent his nation overseas, and

Whereas, the American Legation in Dublin was established on July 27, 1927, when U.S. diplomat Frederick A. Sterling presented his credentials as the American Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and

Whereas, this centennial diplomatic anniversary offers a special occasion to renew the friendship between the United States and the Republic of Ireland, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the centennial of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Ireland and the United States and the continuing enthusiastic and warm friendship between the two nations, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Embassy of the Republic of Ireland in Washington, DC.

H.C.R. 187

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots wrestling team on winning the school's 35th consecutive State championship

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Brownell of Pownal, Carroll of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, and Whitman of Bennington

Offered by: Senator Campion

Whereas, the unbelievably triumphant saga of the Mt. Anthony Union High School (MAU) Patriots wrestling team continued during the 2023–2024 season, as the Patriots' State tournament performance, held at Otter Valley Union High School in Brandon, thrilled their many fans, and

Whereas, the Patriots commenced the final tournament round with a 14-point lead, but their last set of encounters on the wrestling mat were a powerful reminder of this unusual athletic program's endurance, and

Whereas, in each of the five weight categories—120 pounds, 126 pounds, 138 pounds, 150 pounds, and 285 pounds—in which MAU was entered, the wrestling Patriot earned the individual title, culminating in a resounding 189–154 victory over the runner-up Crimson Tide of Spaulding Union High School, and

Whereas, the skillful Patriots were Jillian Glaski, Ryan Marsden, Aiden Riordan, Duncan Harrington, Logan Davis, Shawn Gassaway, Rian Arnold, Spencer Boucher, Gavin Brown, Aaron Collette, Tyler Monick, Ian Denué, Asa Reis, Toby Himes, and James Murphy, and

Whereas, Head Coach Frank Gaudette and his coaching crew, Corey Greene, John Bushee, Ken Volkmer, Scott Legacy II, and Chris Glaski, were superb, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2024 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots wrestling team on winning the school's 35th consecutive State championship, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 188

House concurrent resolution congratulating Milton High School junior Olivia Thomas on her individual track and field achievements

Offered by: Representatives Morgan of Milton, Mattos of Milton, and Taylor of Milton

Whereas, the attention-grabbing team results at State track and field championships are based on the performances of individual athletes who have worked through the indoor or outdoor season to maximize their athletic skills for these decisive competitions, and

Whereas, Olivia Thomas, a junior at Milton High School, is a stellar example of a young athlete whose devotion to her selected individual events—the girls' long jump and the 100-meter dash—has resulted in top scores, and

Whereas, beginning in the spring of 2022 at the State outdoor track and field championships, Olivia Thomas led the Division II female competitors in each of her individual sports, completing the 100-meter dash in 12.90 seconds and traversing 15 feet, 7.50 inches in the long jump, and

Whereas, in 2023, Olivia Thomas proved that her skills transferred easily to indoor competition when she topped her competitors with a speed of 7.70 seconds in the 100-meter dash and traveled a respectable 14 feet, 8.75 inches in the long jump; and then, at that year's outdoor meet, she demonstrated her continued command in the 100-meter dash, surpassing her prior outdoor time with a time of 12.83 seconds and increasing her long jump distance to 16 feet, 7.75 inches, and

Whereas, at the 2024 indoor competition, at which the 100-meter dash was not conducted for the Division II girls, her long jump result measured a satisfying 16 feet, 5 inches, and there remain three more State championships before she graduates at which Olivia Thomas can continue to display her athletic excellence, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Milton High School junior Olivia Thomas on her individual track and field achievements, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 189

House concurrent resolution recognizing March 2024 as National Senior Nutrition Program Month in Vermont and celebrating over a half century of the federal Senior Nutrition Program

Offered by: Representative Noyes of Wolcott

Offered by: Senator Westman

Whereas, 28 percent of Vermont's population is 60 years of age or older, and the threat of hunger confronts 15 percent of older Vermonters, and

Whereas, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed Public Law 92-258, an amendment to the Older Americans Act of 1965, that established the national Senior Nutrition Program for individuals 60 years of age or older, and

Whereas, the impetus for the national Senior Nutrition Program was the recognition that persons in this age group may not eat adequately due to a lack of finances, an inability to prepare nourishing meals, limited mobility, and feelings of loneliness, and

Whereas, in Vermont, the national Senior Nutrition Program is administered through the State Unit on Aging at the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and the area agencies on aging, and meals are delivered to local cooperating meal sites including senior centers and other community locations, as well as to individual homes, and

Whereas, in 2023, Vermont's five area agencies on aging and Vermont's 45 meal providers provided more than 1 million nutritious home-delivered or congregate meals to more than 16,000 older Vermonters, and

Whereas, Meals on Wheels is a key element of the national Senior Nutrition Program through its provision of nutritious meals, safety checks, and friendly visits to those at risk of hunger and isolation; and 96 percent of the Vermont meal recipients report having enough food to eat, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes March 2024 as National Senior Nutrition Program Month in Vermont and celebrating over a half century of the federal Senior Nutrition Program, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living; the Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging; the Vermont Association

of Senior Centers and Meal Providers; each area agency on aging; and the Vermont Foodbank.

H.C.R. 190

House concurrent resolution designating March 26, 2024 as Robert Frost Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Durfee of Shaftsbury, Bongartz of Manchester, Brownell of Pownal, Carroll of Bennington, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Conlon of Cornwall, James of Manchester, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Rice of Dorset, Whitman of Bennington, and Williams of Barre City

Offered by: Senators Bray, Campion, Hardy, and Sears

Whereas, Robert Frost was born 150 years ago today, on March 26, 1874, in San Francisco, California, and he was honored, pursuant to 1961 Acts and Resolves No. R-59, as the first Vermont Poet Laureate, and

Whereas, his distinguished literary oeuvre is most memorable for his more than two dozen published poetry collections, and especially noteworthy were his four poetry Pulitzer Prizes awarded in recognition of his volumes entitled: *New Hampshire: A Poem with Notes and Grace Notes* (1924), *Collected Poems* (1931), *A Further Range* (1937), and *A Witness Tree* (1943), and

Whereas, many of Robert Frost's poems epitomized the rural character and landscape of Vermont, and

Whereas, during the 1920s and 1930s, Robert Frost resided in a stone farmhouse in South Shaftsbury, the location for the writing of his iconic poem "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," one of the selections in his 1924 Pulitzer Prize-winning volume, and

Whereas, his towering presence and leadership at Middlebury College's summertime Bread Loaf School of English in Ripton, where he also resided on a farm after 1938, led to the school's reputation as a stellar center for learning the art of writing, and his many other teaching posts included Bennington College, and

Whereas, Robert Frost was the 1960 recipient of the United States Congressional Gold Medal; recited his poem "The Gift Outright" at President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural; died in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1963 at 88 years of age; and was buried in the Bennington Centre Cemetery, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 26, 2024 as Robert Frost Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Robert Frost Stone House in Shaftsbury and to the Bread Loaf School of English in Ripton.

H.C.R. 191

House concurrent resolution recognizing March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day in Vermont

Offered by: Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

Whereas, the Medal of Honor is the U.S. Armed Forces' highest accolade for extraordinary military valor, and

Whereas, in 1861, President Abraham Lincoln signed Public Resolution 82, the original Medal of Honor legislation, and

Whereas, the first recipients of the Medal of Honor were a group of soldiers known as Andrews' Raiders who led a daunting mission to cross Confederate lines and steal a train, and six of these soldiers were honored on March 25, 1863, and

Whereas, during the Civil War, 61 Vermonters, defined as having either been born or enlisted in the State, were Medal of Honor recipients, and

Whereas, the most unusual recipient was Willie Johnston, who, as an 11-year-old resident of the Northeast Kingdom community of Salem, begged to accompany his father upon the older Johnston's 1861 military enlistment, and

Whereas, Willie Johnston was accepted as a drummer in D Company of the 3rd Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and

Whereas, during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign, when Union forces failed to invade the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, and were forced to flee down the Virginia peninsula, young Johnston proved the only drummer in his division to retain his instrument through the harrowing ordeal, and

Whereas, on September 16, 1863, when Willie Johnston was only 13 years of age, U.S. Secretary of War Edwin Stanton presented him with this special medal, and he remains the youngest recipient to this day, and

Whereas, other Vermonters were awarded the Medal of Honor for service during the Indian Wars (1), the Philippines Campaign (1), interim periods (2), World War II (2), and the Vietnam War (1), and

Whereas, Congress established National Medal of Honor Day, first observed in 1991, “to foster public appreciation and recognition of Medal of Honor Recipients,” now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Robert Burke, Director of the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs, and to William Mattoon in Springfield.