

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

May 2, 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. 242

House concurrent resolution in memory of Charlotte Selectboard Member and former Public Service Board Chair and Department of Public Service Commissioner Louise McCarren

Offered by: Representative Waters Evans of Charlotte

Whereas, Louise McCarren of Charlotte graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law, and

Whereas, after moving from California to Vermont, Louise McCarren entered the private practice of law, joining a then-small number of women in this field, and

Whereas, after she and her first husband divorced, Louise McCarren wrote a guidebook for women on how to obtain a divorce in Vermont, and

Whereas, Louise McCarren moved into the public sector focusing on utilities regulation, first, as Chair of the Vermont Public Service Board (the predecessor of the Public Utility Commission) and, later, as Commissioner of the Department of Public Service, and

Whereas, upon leaving State government, Louise McCarren served as Vice President of the former Chittenden Bank, as Chief Executive Officer of NYNEX (now Verizon), and as Chief Executive Officer of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (which assists in the management of the electric power grid in the western United States), and

Whereas, Louise McCarren was a passionate outdoorswoman and triathlete—participating once in the Hawaii Ironman World Championship—as well as an avid whitewater canoeist; and she traveled repeatedly with her late husband, former Judge and Representative Ed Amidon, on multiweek canoe adventures on Arctic rivers, and

Whereas, she served on the boards of leading Vermont corporate and nonprofit organizations and, in recent years, was an active community

volunteer in Charlotte, and she had returned to public service as a current member of the Charlotte Selectboard, and

Whereas, Louise McCarren died on February 16, 2024, leaving her children, stepchildren, 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 Charlotte Selectboard Member and former Public Service Board Chair and Department of Public Service Commissioner Louise McCarren, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Louise McCarren and the Charlotte Town Clerk.

H.C.R. 243

House concurrent resolution in memory of Alexander and Marilyn Mahar and recognizing the couple's special community legacy to the Town of Bennington

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

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Alexander and Marilyn Mahar, whose selfless and spirited community service won great praise, were pillars in the Town of Bennington and took great pride in their family, and

Whereas, prior to entering his family's funeral business, Mahar Funeral Home, Alexander Mahar graduated from the former Bennington High School and the New England Institute of Mortuary Science, and

Whereas, in 1962, Alexander Mahar purchased the Mahar Funeral Home, which his father had established in 1935, and continued his ownership until his son, John, assumed ownership in 2009, and

Whereas, as a youth, Alexander Mahar was a passionate golfer who won many tournaments, and, later in life, he used this love of the golf links to benefit the Bennington community, and

Whereas, in 1994, he organized a golf tournament, which, over the course of 13 years, raised in excess of \$200,000.00 for the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, and

Whereas, Alexander Mahar was a member of several local fraternal organizations, a devout parishioner of Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales Church, and, at his death on May 16, 2022 at 82 years of age, many Bennington residents expressed deep admiration for his good deeds and sorrow on his passing, and

Whereas, his wife, Marilyn Mahar, whom he married in 1959, graduated from the former Bennington Catholic High School, served as a volunteer Gray Lady at the local hospital, enjoyed playing bridge, and was also an avid golfer who scored a hole-in-one on the 13th hole of the Mt. Anthony Country Club in the same week as her husband did, and

Whereas, Marilyn Mahar's death, on April 4, 2024 also at 82 years of age, saddened her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, as well as her many friends and admirers in Bennington, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of Alexander and Marilyn Mahar and recognizes the couple's special community legacy to the Town of Bennington, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 244

House concurrent resolution congratulating the drama students and theater department of Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans on earning a berth at the 2024 New England Theatre Festival

Offered by: Representatives McCarthy of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, and Toof of St. Albans Town

Whereas, annually, the Vermont Principals' Association and the Vermont Drama Council cosponsor the Vermont Drama Festival; and two of the one-act plays this festival showcases are selected for presentation at the New England Drama Council's New England Theatre Festival, which, in 2024, was held at Attleboro (Massachusetts) High School, and

Whereas, this year, one of the two Vermont productions bestowed this regional honor was Bellows Free Academy (BFA)-St. Albans' presentation of Marisha Chamberlain's abridged dramatic rendition of Louisa May Alcott's beloved 19th-century novel *Little Women*, and

Whereas, Susan Palmer directed the BFA-St. Albans production of *Little Women* with a cast featuring students Grace Bruley, Chloe Weinstein, Emma

Gibson, Jon Coulombe, Olivia Newhall, Olivia Conner, Ares Young, Leah Jamison, Brendan Conley, Owen Scott, and Hardy Toof; and Technical Director Doug Bell had the invaluable support of Jacob Kittell, Sophia Williams, Jeff Modereger, Ivy Hoang, Keerah Gaudette, Shannon Milne, Chloe Hargis, Jamie Bristol, Max Westen, Elizabeth Kusmit, and Jessica Southwick, and

Whereas, this theatrical presentation also received important support from the University of Vermont Theatre Department, Sarah Bush, Sue Wade, Jamie Bristol, Aram Barsumian, Nicole Jamison, Diane Bruley, Jason Bruley, Arleigh Young, Alix Gibson, Christopher Leduc, Eric Bushey, and Alex Charpentier, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the drama students and theater department of Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans on earning a berth at the 2024 New England Theatre Festival, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to BFA-St. Albans.

H.C.R. 245

House concurrent resolution congratulating Mary Anderson on being named the 2024–2025 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year

Offered by: Representatives Boyden of Cambridge, Carpenter of Hyde Park, and Noyes of Wolcott

Offered by: Senator Westman

Whereas, each year, the Vermont Principals’ Association honors an outstanding elementary school principal based on the time-proven adage “that there are no good schools without good school leaders,” and

Whereas, for the 2024–2025 academic year, the honoree is Mary Anderson, who, since 2001, has served as the exemplary principal of Cambridge Elementary School, and

Whereas, her pedagogic and educational administrator career was launched at Johnson State College, her alma mater, and

Whereas, Mary Anderson’s first teaching position was at the Jay Westfield Joint Elementary School where she taught both kindergarten and sixth grade, and

Whereas, the changing demands of public education persuaded Mary Anderson to earn a master’s degree, and, on earning this advance degree, she became her school’s combined principal-kindergarten teacher, and

Whereas, for eight years, she was an admired staff member at the Jay Westfield Joint Elementary School, but she sought out the opportunity to devote her full attention to serving as a school administrator, and

Whereas, in the fall of 2001, the much larger Cambridge Elementary School—today with more than 300 students and nearly 90 staff—welcomed Mary Anderson as its new principal, and, over two decades later, this ideal partnership in education continues, a success story that this outstanding elementary school leader attributes to collaboratively connecting with her teachers and staff, and

Whereas, her selection for this tribute has garnered much praise, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Mary Anderson on being named the 2024–2025 Vermont Elementary School Principal of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mary Anderson and to Cambridge Elementary School.

H.C.R. 246

House concurrent resolution congratulating Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital on its 75th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Sabilia of Dover, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burke of Brattleboro, Chase of Chester, Coffey of Guilford, Goldman of Rockingham, Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Long of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney, Pajala of Londonderry, Roberts of Halifax, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Offered by: Senators Harrison and Hashim

Whereas, Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital (Grace Cottage) in Townshend, with its mission “to serve the healthcare needs of our community; to promote wellness, relieve suffering, and restore health,” epitomizes the importance of small rural hospitals in Vermont, and

Whereas, the hospital’s original building was a home built by Reverend Horace Fletcher in 1844 that, in 1949, Miss Mary Plumb, the then-owner, donated to Dr. Carlos Otis for establishing a local hospital, and

Whereas, Dr. Carlos Otis founded the hospital on August 7, 1949, naming it for the wife of his friend and benefactor, Dr. Abel Grout, and

Whereas, on opening day, Dr. Carlos Otis and hospital staff members Eunice Bills, Bessie Leonard, Valerie Streeter, Lillian Lyons, and Emma Castle greeted 830 guests, and

Whereas, family donations of the adjacent Stratton and Heins homes in 1950 and 1978, respectively, expanded the hospital's campus, and

Whereas, improvements to the Grace Cottage campus have included the Wolff Outpatient Building in 1992; the Messenger Valley Pharmacy in 1996 (and this space was tripled in size in 2012); the new 19-bed, 18,750-square-foot hospital building in 1998 that enabled the original Fletcher House to be devoted exclusively to Grace Cottage Family Health, which, in 1995, had been certified as a federal Rural Health Clinic; the community wellness room in 2009; the diagnostic imaging suite in 2011; the Sheila B. Friedli Entrance and Catherine B. Stratton Reception Area in 2015; an expanded diagnostic imaging wing in 2018; and an Emergency Department expansion in 2023, and

Whereas, in 2023 and 2024, *Vermont Biz* recognized Grace Cottage as one of the "Best Places to Work" in Vermont, the only hospital to receive this distinction during these years, and

Whereas, between 2017 and 2023, Grace Cottage has consistently won Best Place to Work, Best Emergency Room, Best Hospital, Best Physical Therapy, Best Pharmacy, Best Doctor, and Best Pediatrician in the *Brattleboro Reformer's* Readers' Choice Awards, and

Whereas, since 1949, Grace Cottage has tirelessly served southeastern Vermont with the highest quality health care through a medical staff closely tied to the local community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital on its 75th Anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital.