

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

**SENATE AND HOUSE
CALENDARS**

**Text of Senate
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

Thursday, May 9, 2024

CONSENT CALENDAR
Concurrent Resolutions for Notice under Joint Rule 16

The following joint concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House and will be adopted by the Senate unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration before the end of the session of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration should be communicated to the Secretary's Office and/or the House Clerk's Office, respectively.

S.C.R. 16.

By Senators Clarkson, Brock, Baruth, Bray, Campion, Chittenden, , Collamore, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Ingalls, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Norris, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, Sears, Starr, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White, Williams and Wrenner,

S.C.R. 16. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Senator Richard McCormack for his dedicated legislative service in the Vermont Senate.

Whereas, Dick McCormack has represented the Windsor Senate District for much of the past 35 years, and he is proud of being a passionate environmentalist, strong defender of public education, adherent to constitutional norms, and a legislator always ready to fight a worthy battle even if he is the only warrior for the cause, and

Whereas, a graduate of Hofstra University, he also studied secondary education at Castleton State College, and, later, earned a master's degree in environmental policy from Vermont Law School, and

Whereas, Dick McCormack's personal pursuits extend from folk music to post-secondary education to public service, and he has engaged in these avocations with passion and good humor, and

Whereas, as a folk-singing performing and recording artist, Dick McCormack often invokes a Vermont theme in his songs, and, in the 1990s, he hosted *Dick McCormack's Veranda*, a series of programs on Vermont Public Radio, and

Whereas, in his role as a post-secondary instructor, Dick McCormack enjoyed the academic interchange with his students at Vermont Technical College, and

Whereas, Dick McCormack's strong interest in the Act 250 environmental law's success motivated him to serve on the Act 250 District 3 Environmental Commission, including as the panel's chair; and, simultaneously, he served as a justice of the peace in the Town of Bethel, and

Whereas, in 1989, then-Governor Madeleine Kunin recognized Dick McCormack's strong record of public service and appointed him to a Windsor District vacancy in the Vermont Senate, and

Whereas, he has approached this important representational role (from 1989 to 2003 and from 2007 to the present) with a profound seriousness of purpose, and his Democratic colleagues elected him as their caucus leader, and the Senate Committee on Committees named Richard McCormack Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy Chair, and

Whereas, many organizations have honored Richard McCormack's numerous legislative achievements and advocacy efforts, and 2024 will be his final year serving in the Vermont Senate, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Senator Richard McCormack for his dedicated legislative service in the Vermont Senate, *and be it further*

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

S.C.R. 17.

By All Members of the Senate,

S.C.R. 17. Senate concurrent resolution honoring the nearly four decades of conscientious legislative service of former Vermont Senate Dean Richard T. Mazza of Colchester.

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.

S.C.R. 18.

By Senators Ingalls, Baruth, Bray, Brock, Campion, Chittenden, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Norris, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, Sears, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White, Williams, and Wrenner,

By Representatives Page of Newport City, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Higley of Lowell, Labor of Morgan, LaBounty of Lyndon, Marcotte of Coventry, , Parsons of Newbury, Pearl of Danville, Quimby of Lyndon, Sims of Craftsbury, Smith of Derby, Templeman of Brownington, Troiano of Stannard, and Williams of Granby

S.C.R. 18. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Senator Robert A. Starr of Orleans District for his decades of distinguished public service.

Whereas, Bobby Starr has resided nearly all his life in the Village of North Troy and graduated from North Troy High School, and

Whereas, as a businessman, he is the president of the trucking company Starr's United Inc., but his true passion is public service, and

Whereas, in the Town of Troy, of which the Village of North Troy is a part, Bobby Starr has sat on the Zoning Board and Planning Commission, the School Board, and the Board of Civil Authority and has served as town moderator, and, regionally, he served as a member of the Orleans-Essex North Supervisory Union Board and for its successor, the North Country Supervisory Union, as moderator, and

Whereas, his initial election as the House member from Troy occurred in 1978, and the 2004 election sent him across the State House hallway to become one of the two senators representing the Orleans District, and

Whereas, as a legislator, Robert Starr has been focused on Vermont's crucial agriculture sector, especially dairy farming, and his leadership has included long tenures ably chairing the House (1985–2000) and the Senate (2013–2024) Committees on Agriculture; and, in the policy arena, he chaired the Senate Committee on Education (2009–2012), and

Whereas, Bobby Starr was instrumental in the establishment of the Northeast Interstate Compact for Dairy Pricing, an organization designed to facilitate an economically viable base price for the region's dairy farmers' milk; and, on the lighter side, his teams frequently won the interbranch legislative milking competition at the Vermont Farm Show, and

Whereas, continuing Vermont's agricultural heritage through the preservation of the State's farmland has always been of great importance to Senator Robert Starr, and he has actively supported the Current Use Program, which was originally enacted in 1978, and has led the efforts to improve and update the legislation, and

Whereas, as a Vermont Technical College alumnus and State College trustee, Senator Robert Starr was a strong advocate for the school's educational programs related to agriculture and those students studying agriculture, and

Whereas, in 2024, Robert Starr is concluding an illustrious four and a half decades as an Orleans District member of the General Assembly, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Senator Robert A. Starr of Orleans District for his decades of distinguished public service, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Senator Robert Starr.

S.C.R. 19.

By Senators Sears and Campion,

By Representatives Bongartz of Manchester, Carroll of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, James of Manchester, Morrissey of Bennington, Rice of Dorset and Whitman of Bennington

S.C.R. 19. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Sue Allen for her exemplary career in journalism, government, politics, and the nonprofit sector.

Whereas, multiple occupational transitions between government roles, especially if perceived as politically partisan, and journalism are typically one-way, but, over the decades, Sue Allen accomplished this switch more than once, performing with great distinction in all her positions, and

Whereas, Sue Allen's life as a journalist began as a researcher at *USA Today*; and, in 1986, seeking a more reportorial beat, she became a State House and political reporter for the Montpelier bureau of the *Burlington Free Press*; and she later worked as both a general and political reporter for the Associated Press, also in Montpelier, and

Whereas, in 1996, Sue Allen's career path veered in a new direction when Governor Howard Dean appointed her as his press secretary (1996–2003), and she adroitly advocated for the Governor's agenda while simultaneously serving as a trusted information resource for reporters, and

Whereas, the respect Governor Dean had for his press secretary's skills and professionalism convinced him to hire Sue Allen for his presidential campaign in 2003, and

Whereas, once leaving Howard Dean's employment, Sue Allen returned to the media world, first, as a *Burlington Free Press* editorial writer (2004–2006), and then as the editor of the *Barre-Montpelier Times Argus* (2006–2010), and

Whereas, after a career-branching move to serve as the Renewable Energy Vermont Executive Director (2010–2011), Sue Allen answered the call of a second Governor and served as Governor Peter Shumlin's press secretary for two years and then, for the balance of his governorship, as his deputy chief of staff, and

Whereas, on departing the Governor's office, Sue Allen headed down State Street to Montpelier City Hall to serve as assistant Montpelier city manager (2017–2019) where she focused on special projects, and

Whereas, in 2021, Vermont News and Media hired Sue Allen to serve as editor of the *Bennington Banner* and the *Manchester Journal* where she

energized both publications with her superb journalism and managerial talents, and, on May 1, 2024, she concluded these roles, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Sue Allen for her exemplary career in journalism, government, politics, and the nonprofit sector, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Sue Allen and to the *Bennington Banner*.