State of Vermont
House of Representatives

Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 107

House concurrent resolution honoring the 83 years of outstanding Paquette family agricultural entrepreneurship

Offered by: Representatives Austin of Colchester, Brennan of Colchester, Chase of Colchester, and Taylor of Colchester

Offered by: Senator Mazza

Whereas, in 1949, in order to expand the facility, Leonel and Helen Paquette relocated their Williston chicken farm, established in 1940, to Colchester, and

Whereas, the Paquettes named their Colchester agricultural operation, which raised chickens and sold eggs, Shadow Cross Farm in recognition of the many shadow crisscrosses projected through the windowpanes onto the floor of their 160-year-old farmhouse, and

Whereas, at the height of the farm's chicken-raising era, the facility maintained 75,000 laying hens, which daily produced 68,000 to 70,000 eggs, and, because laying hens are only productive for approximately one year, baby chicks were continuously on-site, making this farm an alluring destination for first- and second-grade school field trips, and

Whereas, in 2000, after half a century of frenzied avian comings and goings, Richard Paquette, the grandson of Leonel Paquette, and Richard's wife, Linda, acknowledged that encroaching housing construction and the closure of the neighboring dairy and vegetable farms that had accepted chicken manure from Shadow Cross Farm necessitated the sale of their flocks, and

Whereas, the Paquettes continued as a distributor of eggs produced at other farms but are now desirous of adopting a less hectic lifestyle, and they ended their role as purveyors of farm-fresh eggs on April 1, 2023, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the 83 years of outstanding Paquette family agricultural entrepreneurship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Richard and Linda Paquette.