

No. R-42. House concurrent resolution honoring criminal defense and personal injury attorney and Thetford Academy indoor track coach Charles Buttrey of Thetford.

(H.C.R.33)

Offered by Representatives Masland of Thetford and Holcombe of Norwich

Whereas, Charlie Buttrey of Thetford graduated from Vermont Law and Graduate School, and he initially practiced law in Norwich before moving his professional life across the Connecticut River to Lebanon, New Hampshire, where he joined the law firm now known as Schuster, Buttrey, and Wing, and

Whereas, the focus of his legal career has been as a criminal defense attorney who participates in New Hampshire's public defender conflict program, and this entrée provides him a clientele consisting largely of persons who are frequently indigent and who society has often written off, and

Whereas, a creative advocate in the courtroom, he employs ingenuity and spirited argument to spare his clients from being imprisoned or paying fines, and he finds it sobering that the U.S. Department of Justice reports that, in both New Hampshire and Vermont, 40 percent of the released prison population is reincarcerated within three years, and

Whereas, although his professional passion is the criminal defense side of his practice, to which he devotes 80 percent of his time as a lawyer, the other 20 percent, composed of personal injury law cases, is essential to the financial viability of his career, and in pursuit of these clients, Charlie Buttrey has aired attention-grabbing television advertisements, featuring persons whose activities could lead to injuries, including a skydiver, a character he personally portrayed, accompanied with the catchy tagline, "Not Just Another Lawyer," and

Whereas, away from the courtroom drama, Charlie Buttrey enjoys fulfilling an equally satisfying role as the Thetford Academy boys' indoor track coach, and in 2025, the athletes under his wise guidance convincingly clinched the Division II championship, and in a desire to pursue a scholarly interest, he recently earned a graduate degree in theology from Boston University, and

Whereas, after 38 years as a member of the bar, Charlie Buttrey has decided to step aside from the active practice of law but intends to remain a vigilant warrior for criminal justice reform through volunteering with Orange County's Restorative Justice Center and advocating at both the New Hampshire and Vermont State Houses to eliminate life without parole criminal sentences, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors criminal defense and personal injury attorney and Thetford Academy indoor track coach Charles Buttrey of Thetford, *and be it further*

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