

No. R-87. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's planning, in Bennington in 1775, of the successful Vermont initiation of the American War of Independence and the associated expedition to Ticonderoga.

(H.C.R.67)

Offered by Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Cooper of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Greer of Bennington, Hunter of Manchester, James of Manchester, Nigro of Bennington, and Pinsonault of Dorset

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

Whereas, during the 1770s, the volunteer militia members of the New Hampshire Grants, living north of the province of Massachusetts in the frontier areas between the Connecticut River and Lake Champlain, were known as the Green Mountain Boys, and

Whereas, the Green Mountain Boys were located within striking distance of the two artillery-rich British forts, Crown Point and Ticonderoga, both perched on the western shore of Lake Champlain, and

Whereas, in early May 1775, Ethan Allen, who lived in Bennington, directed his fellow Green Mountain Boys at the Catamount Tavern, the militia's de facto headquarters, to bring their flintlock muskets north, in a discrete manner; to recruit more Green Mountain Boys along the way; and to rendezvous in Castleton, where they would be given further instructions, and

Whereas, the plan was finalized at Castleton and the Green Mountain Boys' execution of it resulted in the successful seizure of the British-held forts and the liberation of 78 cannons at Ticonderoga and 111 cannons at Crown Point, and these forays into British fortifications were seen as the first patriot triumphs in the American War of Independence from Great Britain, and

Whereas, these epic military operations and legendary feats forever enhanced the reputation of the Green Mountain Boys and contributed to the successful American drive to win independence from Great Britain, and

Whereas, in May 2025, Vermonters are commemorating the early role of the gallant and heroic men of the New Hampshire Grants in the fight for American independence, the prelude to Vermont's admission as our nation's 14th state, and

Whereas, in Bennington County, the commemoration of the "Expedition to Ticonderoga: Ethan Allen, the Green Mountain Boys, and America's First Victory," includes public events celebrating these brave deeds of 1775, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's planning, in Bennington in 1775, of the successful Vermont initiation of the American War of Independence and the associated expedition to Ticonderoga, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Bennington Town Clerk.