

**No. R-101. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Bakersfield Select Board member Brenda Churchill.**

(H.C.R.81)

Offered by Representatives Krowinski of Burlington, Arsenault of Williston, Berbeco of Winooski, Bishop of Colchester, Black of Essex, Bluemle of Burlington, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Boyden of Cambridge, Burke of Brattleboro, Burrows of West Windsor, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Casey of Montpelier, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Coffin of Cavendish, Cole of Hartford, Corcoran of Bennington, Cordes of Bristol, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Garofano of Essex, Goslant of Northfield, Graning of Jericho, Gregoire of Fairfield, Harrison of Chittenden, Headrick of Burlington, Holcombe of Norwich, Houghton of Essex Junction, Howard of Rutland City, Hunter of Manchester, Kleppner of Burlington, Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Krasnow of South Burlington, Labor of Morgan, Lalley of Shelburne, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lipsky of Stowe, Logan of Burlington, Long of Newfane, Luneau of St. Albans City, Masland of Thetford, McCann of Montpelier, McCoy of Poultney, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Morris of Springfield, Nugent of South Burlington, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pouech of Hinesburg, Priestley of Bradford, Rachelson of Burlington, Scheu of Middlebury, Sibia of Dover, Stevens of Waterbury, Stone of Burlington, Surprenant of Barnard, Sweeney of Shelburne, Tomlinson of Winooski, Waszazak of Barre City, Waters Evans of Charlotte, Wells of Brownington, White of Waitsfield, Wood of Waterbury, and Yacovone of Morristown

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Bakersfield Select Board member Brenda Churchill

*Whereas*, to many, Brenda Churchill was best known as a leading advocate for transgender rights within the LGBTQIA+ community, but this was not her sole civic or political engagement, and

*Whereas*, for over two decades, she was employed in the telecommunications industry and later brought this professional expertise to her service on the board of Northwest Fiberworx, the Communications Union District serving Franklin and Grand Isle Counties, and

*Whereas*, Brenda Churchill served as a key aide in Christine Hallquist's 2018 gubernatorial campaign, and she completed the Emerge Vermont candidate training program, and also served on the organization's board, and

*Whereas*, as the legislative liaison for the LGBTQIA Alliance of Vermont, her efforts were critical in legislative enactments related to ethnic and social equity studies in public schools; the provision of gender-neutral bathrooms; adding a non-binary designation option for Vermont drivers' licenses; and establishing a birth certificate authentication process, and

*Whereas*, Brenda Churchill's interests also focused on municipal government in the Town of Bakersfield, where she served as a zoning official and the local American Rescue Plan manager, and she won election as both a justice of the peace and select board member, and

*Whereas*, during the 2020 U.S. Census, she served as one of the Vermonters performing the vital role of data collector for the decennial headcount, and

*Whereas*, when not engaged in one of her many public or nonprofit sector roles, Brenda Churchill loved riding her bright orange Jeep off-trail on interesting journeys, and

*Whereas*, Brenda Churchill's participation in local and State government culminated in being selected as a member of the Vermont Commission on Women, and

*Whereas*, on January 13, 2025, Brenda Churchill died at 67 years of age, and her survivors include her partner, Sarah Chapman; her children; and her 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 Brenda Churchill, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to her family, the Bakersfield Town Clerk, and the Vermont Commission on Women.