

No. R-357. House concurrent resolution in memory of Elana Grace Korey and recognizing August 2, 2026, as 802 Day in Vermont.

(H.C.R.299)

Offered by Representative Chapin of East Montpelier

Offered by Senator Cummings

Whereas, Elana Korey of Duxbury, Massachusetts, was 20 years of age and a student at the University of Arkansas, and had strong ties to Vermont, and

Whereas, shortly after 5:00 a.m. on July 28, 2024, a foggy Sunday morning, Elana Korey was a front-seat passenger in a 2006 Lexus automobile that was traveling northbound on I-89 in Middlesex, and the highway was clear with minimal traffic, and

Whereas, tragically, the car veered off the right-hand side of the road, crashed into a rock ledge, and, on impact, was engulfed in flames, killing both Elana and the driver, who was 19 years of age, and, upon investigation, the Vermont State Police determined that the driver's blood alcohol content was above the legal limit, marijuana was present in his bloodstream, and speed was a factor in the crash, and

Whereas, the death of Elana Korey devastated her parents, Alice and Robert Korey, along with her brothers, especially as all three siblings were relatively close in age, and

Whereas, beyond mourning their daughter's loss, her parents established the Ollie's Angels Foundation, named after her beloved puppy and her "angel," and it is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a mission of "raising awareness about the deadly consequences of impaired and reckless driving," and dedicated to helping other families avoid a similar preventable and unimaginable loss through focusing on sober driving, accountability, and educating young adults before another highway tragedy becomes irreversible, and

Whereas, the Ollie's Angels Foundation has launched two primary projects; one, known as "Project 802 (802 Day)" takes its name from the State's closely identified telephone area code and applies it to the calendar for an annual observance on August 2, both to honor Elana Korey and to promote responsible sober driving across Vermont's communities; the second initiative, labeled "Catch a Safe Ride," encourages individuals, especially youths, to find alternative transportation if they or their intended driver is not sober, and

Whereas, to promote this important message, the Ollie's Angels Foundation is partnering with Mothers Against Drunk Driving and reaching out on Instagram and TikTok, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends condolences to the family of Elana Grace Korey and recognizes August 2, 2026, as 802 Day in Vermont, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Ollie's Angels Foundation.