

No. R-361. House concurrent resolution extending best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to the indomitable Representative Anne de la Blanchetai Donahue of Northfield.

(H.C.R.303)

Offered by All Members of the House (for Representative Donahue of Northfield)

Whereas, Vermont native Anne Donahue is a graduate of Boston College and Georgetown University Law Center, and, since 2003, has served as the extraordinarily conscientious and detail-focused member from Northfield, whose special passion for improving mental health care in Vermont is rooted in her own life experiences, and

Whereas, she has worked proactively for many years to develop a more effective and humane mental health care system from both the institutional and community-based delivery perspectives, including serving for many years as editor of *Counterpoint*, the official publication of the Vermont Psychiatric Survivors organization, and

Whereas, after Tropical Storm Irene's 2011 destruction of the former Vermont State Hospital (VSH) in Waterbury, Representative Anne Donahue was instrumental in the creation of its institutional successor, the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital in Berlin, participating in the formation of a more modern and responsive organization, and

Whereas, the dilemma of former VSH undocumented burial sites struck Representative Anne Donahue as an injustice requiring correction, and she has devoted considerable effort to locating these sites, finally restoring dignity to the individuals concerned, even if posthumously, and

Whereas, similarly, she also worked to identify individuals with mental health challenges whose bodies were donated, without prior consent, to the University of Vermont Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine for research, and the school honored her for this work at its April 2026 convocation, and

Whereas, for over a decade, Representative Anne Donahue methodically worked on crafting an official apology for the discriminatory treatment of many Vermonters under the highly contentious rubric of the eugenics movement, and since the adoption of 2021 Acts and Resolves No. R-114, "Joint resolution sincerely apologizing and expressing sorrow and regret to all individual Vermonters and their families and descendants who were harmed as a result of State-sanctioned eugenics policies and practices," she has been intensively involved in next-step legislative initiatives, and

Whereas, on the floor and during her service on the House Rules Committee, Representative Anne Donahue has focused on the minutiae of legislation and the legislative process to promote clarity and transparency, and

Whereas, on March 30, 2026, her legislative colleagues were greatly concerned to learn that Representative Anne Donahue had experienced a brain aneurysm, but they are relieved that her recovery is progressing well, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to the indomitable Representative Anne de la Blanchetai Donahue of Northfield, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Representative Anne Donahue.