

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House Concurrent  
Resolutions**

**of**

**May 7, 2026**

## **Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rules 16a -16d**

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration in the member's chamber prior to adjournment of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Senate Secretary's Office or the House Clerk's Office, as applicable.

### **H.C.R. 284**

Offered by Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

House concurrent resolution honoring former Senate Majority Leader and Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs Executive Director John F. Campbell for his outstanding public service career

*Whereas*, upon graduating from the University of Florida, John Campbell joined the Broward County Sheriff's Office as a patrol officer, and

*Whereas*, after experiencing the rough-and-tumble of hands-on law enforcement, he opted for a potentially more sedate work environment, graduating from what is today Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad College of Law, and

*Whereas*, upon heeding the call to "go north, young man," and relocating to Windsor County, he practiced as a private attorney, and

*Whereas*, in 2000, John Campbell successfully stood for a Windsor County Senate seat and served continuously until 2016, including several terms as the respected Senate Majority Leader, and

*Whereas*, in 2016, he became the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs Executive Director and in that role was a decisive and thoughtful leader, and

*Whereas*, under his guidance, the Department improved its administrative support in all 14 counties, and

*Whereas*, although charged with being the State's Attorneys' and sheriffs' advocate, John Campbell did not shy away from criticizing severe professional misconduct, and he enthusiastically supported an ultimately unsuccessful legislative effort to impose new accountability for these elected county officials in the belief that Vermonters deserve the best from their public servants, and

*Whereas*, reflecting on his quarter of a century in State government, John Campbell is most proud of his 2009 co-lead sponsorship of S.115, for which he successfully fought to override a gubernatorial veto, to establish marriage

equality in Vermont, and his lead sponsorship in 2015 of S.31, a broad gun-control measure that, among other provisions, would have mandated a federal background check on all Vermont gun sales, and

*Whereas*, John Campbell has concluded his State government career to pursue his passion to paint works of art, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly honors former Senate Majority Leader and Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs Executive Director John F. Campbell for his outstanding public service career, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John F. Campbell.

**H.C.R. 285**

Offered by Representatives Greer of Bennington, Cooper of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, and Nigro of Bennington

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

House concurrent resolution recognizing the fifth anniversary of the Middlebury Language Schools–Bennington College intercultural education collaboration

*Whereas*, in the 21st century, knowledge of foreign languages has become essential to succeed in an increasingly interconnected world, and

*Whereas*, in 1915, just as advances in telecommunication and transportation were beginning to transform the globe, the forward-thinking leadership of Middlebury College established the first Middlebury Language School, offering an intensive summer course of instruction in German, and over the next 111 years, the curriculum expanded to include Abenaki, Arabic, Chinese, French, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, and

*Whereas*, the mission of Middlebury Language Schools is to “provide expert education in languages and cultures through innovative, immersive instruction,” and

*Whereas*, Middlebury Language Schools welcome students from around the world, who receive expert instruction and sign a pledge to speak only in the language being studied for the duration of the totally immersive course and associated living experience, and

*Whereas*, in 2019, the presidents of Middlebury College and Bennington College (which was established in 1932 as an institution dedicated to innovative approaches to higher education), entered into a five-year agreement, which became effective in 2021, to relocate the Arabic, Italian, and Portuguese Middlebury Language Schools to the Bennington College campus, and

*Whereas*, during these past five years, this agreement has served as a model collaboration between the two Vermont colleges, demonstrating their mutual commitment to academic excellence and intercultural exchange, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly recognizes the fifth anniversary of the Middlebury Language Schools–Bennington College intercultural education collaboration, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Bennington College and Middlebury College.

**H.C.R. 286**

Offered by Representatives Greer of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Cooper of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, and Nigro of Bennington

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

House concurrent resolution congratulating Wassick Tire Service of Bennington on its 80th anniversary

*Whereas*, during World War II, Steve Wassick Sr. served in the U.S. military, which assigned him to a vehicle repair unit, and, through this work experience, he developed an interest in the tire business, and

*Whereas*, upon his return to civilian life, Steve Wassick Sr. worked for Abel’s Tire Corporation in Rutland, and

*Whereas*, his marriage to Ellen McArthur of Woodford prompted Steve Wassick Sr. to relocate to Bennington in 1946 and establish his own tire enterprise, Wassick Tire Service, which, since its opening day, has sold tires and wheels for a variety of motor vehicles and has provided associated support services to ensure these products remain road-ready, and

*Whereas*, in the early 1980s, Wassick Tire Service experienced a generational leadership change when Steve Wassick Sr.’s sons, Steve Jr. and Donnie, assumed the mantle of leadership, and, subsequently, Donnie

purchased his brother's share of the business, and, in the summer months, Donnie's son, DJ, a teacher at the Stratton Mountain School, works with his father, and

*Whereas*, in 2014, the staff, residents, and volunteers of the Vermont Veterans' Home presented Wassick Tire Service with a commemorative plaque in tribute to the company's annual Christmas season display of a lighted Veterans' Home cross atop its building, and

*Whereas*, since their inception, the annual Bennington Banner's Readers' Choice Awards have honored Wassick Tire Service, attesting to the high esteem the company has earned from eight decades of superb service, and

*Whereas*, Wassick Tire Service epitomizes a well-run family business that is worthy of the company's advertising mottos, "Where the People Know Tires Best" and "The Best Tire Dealer in the Shires," *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Wassick Tire Service of Bennington on its 80th anniversary, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Wassick Tire Service in Bennington.

**H.C.R. 287**

Offered by Representatives Greer of Bennington, Cooper of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington, and Nigro of Bennington

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

House concurrent resolution congratulating Ella Palisano on setting a new Vermont girls' indoor track and field high jump record and extending best wishes for her college athletic career at the Ohio State University

*Whereas*, the high jump athletic event, popular among athletes and spectators, originated in Scotland in the 19th century, and

*Whereas*, competitors are challenged to "jump unaided over a four-meter-long horizontal bar placed at [a] predetermined height without dislodging it," and

*Whereas*, since 2023, in Vermont interscholastic indoor varsity competition, Ella Palisano of Mt. Anthony Union High School, the Gatorade 2024–2025 Player of the Year in Vermont girls' track and field, has held the girls' indoor

high jump record at five feet, seven inches, achieving this mark as a ninth grader, and

*Whereas*, the 2026 Vermont indoor track and field championship, held on January 10 at the University of Vermont, was the final opportunity for senior Ella Palisano to surpass her own lofty athletic achievement, and

*Whereas*, with much preparation and concentration, Ella Palisano outshined her 2023 performance, establishing a new record of five feet, nine inches, and

*Whereas*, she credits the coaching staff at Mt. Anthony, especially Head Track and Field Coach Paul Redding, for mentoring her since her freshman year, as well as the supportive Vermont track and field community, and

*Whereas*, this fall, Ella Palisano will commence a new track and field adventure as a student-athlete at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Ella Palisano on setting a new Vermont girls' indoor track and field high jump record and extends best wishes for her college athletic career at the Ohio State University, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ella Palisano.

**H.C.R. 288**

Offered by Representatives Long of Newfane, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burke of Brattleboro, Carris Duncan of Whitingham, Eastes of Guilford, Goldman of Rockingham, Goodnow of Brattleboro, Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Morrow of Weston, Mrowicki of Putney, and Sibia of Dover

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of Marlboro Music, a premier chamber music educational institution, performance venue, and incubator

*Whereas*, American chamber music and Marlboro are synonymous, and the musical inspiration and nurturing influence of this venerable Vermont artistic institution on music performance and education are immense, and

*Whereas*, the establishment of Marlboro Music represented the epitome of the American immigrant experience, as, in 1951, members of the extraordinarily musically talented Busch and Moyse families, namely cellist Hermann Busch; his brother, violinist Adolf Busch; his son-in-law, pianist

Rudolph Serkin, who, for half a century, would serve as Marlboro's esteemed music director; flutist brothers Marcel Moyse and Louis Moyse; and Louis's then-wife, violinist Blanche Moyse, created this organization on the campus of Marlboro College (now known as the Marlboro Institute for Liberal Arts and Interdisciplinary Studies), and

*Whereas*, during the annual summer musicians' residency program, aspiring professionals refine their playing technique and musical connoisseurship under the expert tutelage of musical luminaries, and, later in the summer, they jointly perform in magnificent concerts, and

*Whereas*, during the 1964 residency program, several Marlboro attendees established the famous Guarneri Quartet, and, at the time, the *Musical America International Directory of the Performing Arts* listed 113 American chamber music ensembles, and, in 2026, that number has happily risen to approximately 650, many of which proudly include Marlboro alumni, and

*Whereas*, cellist and conductor Pablo Casals; violinist Felix Galimir; cellist Madeline Foley; and composers Samuel Barber, Elliott Carter, and Aaron Copland are among the musicians who have coached at Marlboro Music, and

*Whereas*, many Vermonters, trustees, staff, musicians, and community partners have worked diligently to sustain Marlboro Music, which is an important contributor to Vermont's creative economy, and

*Whereas*, when Marlboro College closed, the future of Marlboro Music's picturesque Potash Hill campus was uncertain, and, after complex negotiations, the campus's long-term continuity was ensured when Marlboro Music, through a newly formed associated organization, Potash Hill, Inc., assumed ownership, and now the famed pianists Mitsuko Uchida and Jonathan Biss are codirectors, Miles Cohen is artistic administrator, and Kalya Yannatos is managing director, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly celebrates the 75th anniversary of Marlboro Music, a premier chamber music educational institution, performance venue, and incubator, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Marlboro Music.

**H.C.R. 289**

Offered by Representatives Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, and Goodnow of Brattleboro

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Brattleboro Union High School championship mock trial team

*Whereas*, for the past decade, the Vermont Mock Trial Competition for high school students has offered students a combined educational and experiential opportunity to engage in the full scope of the courtroom process, and

*Whereas*, in 2026, the students were challenged with a criminal case listing charges of murder as an accessory and conspiracy to commit murder, and

*Whereas*, the participating student attorneys were presented a case packet consisting of a maximum of six witness affidavits and associated exhibits; based on these materials, they drafted opening statements, direct and cross-examination questions, and closing arguments, and

*Whereas*, the competition's curriculum also includes instruction on courtroom procedure and the rules of evidence, and

*Whereas*, aside from the litigation-specific elements, this academic exercise enables the students to improve their critical thinking and public speaking skills, and

*Whereas*, this year's competition was held at Vermont Law and Graduate School in South Royalton on March 14, 2026, and the panel of 15 judges included members of the federal and State Judiciary, as well as practicing lawyers, and

*Whereas*, after all the trial proceedings had concluded and the judges assessed the student advocates, the Brattleboro Union High School (BUHS) team was awarded first place honors, and

*Whereas*, the BUHS lawyers were Abraham Balint-Wohl, Danny Mahoney-Schmitt, Sal North, and Isabel Young; the school's student witnesses were Leland Stromberg, Eli Welch, and Gilbert Komuves; the faculty coaches were Tessa Anders and Ashley Nadeau; and Alycia Sanders served as the practicing attorney advisor, and

*Whereas*, the selection of BUHS as the competition's top team reflects the diligent preparation of these outstanding students, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2026 Brattleboro Union High School championship mock trial team, *and be it further*

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

## H.C.R. 290

Offered by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Branagan of Georgia, Harvey of Castleton, Masland of Thetford, and McCoy of Poultney

Offered by Senators Collamore, Weeks, and Williams

House concurrent resolution congratulating George Luke Taggart of Castleton on his 100th birthday

*Whereas*, symbolically, the birth date of George (Buddy) Taggart, on July 4, 1926, has been reflected throughout his century-long patriotic life, during which he has resided in Castleton except for his military service, and

*Whereas*, as a youngster, Buddy, his brother Franklin, and his sister Audrey lived frugally with their parents, Sylvia and George H. Taggart, on Birdseye Mountain, farming, logging, and attending one-room schoolhouses, and

*Whereas*, in 1944, 17-year-old Buddy Taggart enlisted in the U.S. Army, as his siblings and father similarly served, and

*Whereas*, he served as a sergeant in the 1st Cavalry Division in the Philippines; was wounded; received a Purple Heart and other military citations; participated in the liberation of the Santo Tomas Internment Camp in Manila; and, prior to his honorable discharge in 1946, was part of the American occupation forces in Japan, and

*Whereas*, in 1958, Buddy and Franklin Taggart established Taggart Brothers Construction, a major local builder, and among the construction projects he supervised were additions to Castleton Elementary School, the Green Block housing for the elderly in Fair Haven, the chapel at the Castleton campus of Vermont State University, and other projects in Vermont and upstate New York, and

*Whereas*, he has been active at the Castleton Federated Church and in many fraternal organizations, including the American Legion Post 50 in Castleton, which is close to his heart and was the site of Buddy Taggart's long-delayed receipt of his high school diploma, and

*Whereas*, Buddy Taggart and his late wife, Patricia Smith Taggart, are the parents of two children, Marcia and Timothy; and he is proud of his six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren, and

*Whereas*, an unexpected and memorable early 100th birthday present was President Donald J. Trump's invitation to attend the 2026 State of the Union address, where the President recognized the 99-year-old proud veteran's presence in the chamber of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Buddy

Taggart and his family members posed for a photograph with First Lady Melania Trump, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates George Luke Taggart of Castleton on his 100th birthday, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Buddy Taggart.

**H.C.R. 291**

Offered by Representative Cooper of Pownal

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

House concurrent resolution congratulating Williams College Professor of Music W. Anthony Sheppard on his designation as a 2026 Guggenheim Fellow

*Whereas*, in 1925, former Colorado U.S. Senator John Simon Guggenheim established a foundation, which today supports “extraordinary individuals breaking new ground in the Creative Arts, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, and a range of interdisciplinary fields,” and, during the past century, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation (the Foundation) has awarded over 19,000 scholars nearly \$450 million in fellowship grants, and

*Whereas*, on April 14, 2026, the Foundation introduced the 101st fellowship class, consisting of 223 new Guggenheim Fellows, selected from nearly 5,000 applicants who are engaged in 55 disciplines; who represent 97 academic institutions; and who reside in the United States, Canada, and eight other nations, and

*Whereas*, one of the 2026 Guggenheim Fellows is Pownal resident W. Anthony Sheppard, the Marylin and Arthur Levitt Professor of Music at Williams College, a faculty member since 1996, a graduate of Amherst College, and holder of a master’s degree and a doctoral degree from Princeton University, and

*Whereas*, Professor W. Anthony Sheppard’s research and teaching interests range from American musical history to Asian (especially Japanese) music, Broadway musical theater, cross-cultural influences, exoticism, globalization’s impact on music, film music analysis, opera, popular music, and vocal timbre, and

*Whereas*, while on the Williams College faculty, he has edited and contributed to volumes on the bandleader Paul Whiteman and the Williams

College alumnus, Broadway composer, and lyricist Stephen Sondheim; he has written two books, one exploring Japan's influence on American music and a second examining exotic influences in modernist musical theater; he has published many thoughtful articles; he has edited leading academic music journals; and he has been the recipient of numerous accolades and honors; and he is a popular lecturer at musical events, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Williams College Professor of Music W. Anthony Sheppard on his designation as a 2026 Guggenheim Fellow, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Professor W. Anthony Sheppard.

**H.C.R. 292**

Offered by Representatives Branagan of Georgia, Bartley of Fairfax, Brigham of St. Albans Town, Demar of Enosburgh, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Laroche of Franklin, Long of Milton, Luneau of St. Albans City, Micklus of Milton, Oliver of Sheldon, and Walker of Swanton

Offered by Senators Brock and Norris

House concurrent resolution congratulating Elaine Larivee of Enosburg Falls on her centennial birthday

*Whereas*, a century ago, on May 6, 1926, Elaine Larivee was born in Quebec, where she married a local farmer, and she has resided for many decades in the village of Enosburg Falls, and

*Whereas*, during her long life, Elaine Larivee raised a large family of successful children, and she is a proud grandmother and great-grandmother, and

*Whereas*, as a farmer's wife, she supported her family through the challenges of the agricultural cycles and the hard work associated with managing a farm, and

*Whereas*, Elaine Larivee is well known in Franklin County and is a faithful friend to all, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Elaine Larivee of Enosburg Falls on her centennial birthday, *and be it further*

**Resolved:** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Elaine Larivee.

### H.C.R. 293

Offered by Representatives Berbeco of Winooski and Cina of Burlington

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Vermont

*Whereas*, good mental health is essential to the overall health and well-being of all Vermonters, affecting how they connect with others, feel, think, and navigate the world, and

*Whereas*, according to recent data from the American Psychiatric Association, 38 percent of Americans began 2026 with a mental-health-related New Year's resolution, a five percent increase over 2025, and this figure represents a significant public commitment to prioritizing psychological wellness, and

*Whereas*, annually, one in five Americans experience a mental health condition, yet five out of five Americans manage their personal mental health on a daily basis, meaning that mental health and wellness is a universal priority, and

*Whereas*, in 1949, the National Institute of Mental Health was established, and that same year, Mental Health Awareness Month was first observed, and

*Whereas*, in 2026, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has selected "Stigma grows in silence. Healing begins in community" as the theme for Mental Health Awareness Month, a concept that invites everyone to speak out against mental health stigma, and

*Whereas*, serious mental illness and suicidal thoughts among Americans remain critical concerns, particularly for young adults 18–34 years of age, more of whom are now prioritizing their mental health, and

*Whereas*, Mental Health Awareness Month provides an important opportunity to work towards eradicating stigma, fostering public education, and striving to improve the mental health of individuals and families, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly recognizes May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Vermont, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to NAMI Vermont, Vermont Care Partners, and the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery.