

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 223

Offered by Representatives Mihaly of Calais and Chapin of East Montpelier

House concurrent resolution honoring former Public Service Board Chair and East Montpelier Town Moderator Michael Dworkin

Whereas, Michael Dworkin was born in Philadelphia, and while attending Middlebury College, he interrupted his studies to work at the former Brandon Training School, where he observed the misguided warehousing of individuals with developmental disabilities and worked on innovative programming, and

Whereas, he also learned that toxins, such as lead, were a significant factor affecting the Brandon residents' cognitive abilities, a key factor that influenced his decision to pursue an environmental law career, and

Whereas, after graduating from Middlebury College summa cum laude in 1975, Michael Dworkin earned his law degree at Harvard Law School, cum laude, and clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, and

Whereas, as an appellate attorney at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, his supervisors awarded him a medal of commendation, and

Whereas, after his 1983 marriage to Loring Starr, Michael Dworkin became a telecommunications attorney at the former Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) and subsequently served as the PSB's general counsel, and

Whereas, in 1995, Michael Dworkin entered the private sector as general counsel and managing partner at Riser Management Systems, providing telecommunications support services for high-rise buildings, and

Whereas, in 1999, Governor Howard Dean appointed Michael Dworkin as PSB chair, and in addition to presiding over energy and telecommunications regulatory proceedings, including the sale of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, he oversaw the Board's establishment of Efficiency Vermont, the nation's first energy efficiency utility, and

Whereas, in the midst of his hectic professional duties, Michael Dworkin was elected East Montpelier town moderator for several terms, presiding adroitly and knowledgeably at town meetings, and

Whereas, after chairing the PSB, Michael Dworkin was the founder and director of the Vermont Law and Graduate School's (VLGS) Institute for Energy and the Environment, creating a legal education program in these interconnected specialties, and internationally, he taught seminars in China for Pacific Rim attorneys and served as a visiting professor at the Te Piringa School of Law, Politics, and Philosophy at the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand, and

Whereas, upon leaving VLGS, he served as a director at both the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation and the Vermont Electric Power Company, and as an academic and energy consultant, capping a stellar career of leadership and service, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Public Service Board Chair and East Montpelier Town Moderator Michael Dworkin, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Michael Dworkin and to members of his family.