

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 305

Offered by All Members of the House

House concurrent resolution honoring former Representative Francis Matthew (Topper) McFaun for his exemplary public and community service

Whereas, throughout his life, Topper McFaun has been known by this distinctive nickname, which his mother bestowed on him before his birth with optimistic aspirations, and which he has undeniably surpassed, and

Whereas, growing up in a poor neighborhood of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and residing in the home of his elderly great-great-grandfather, Topper McFaun learned the importance of wrangling meal invitations from neighbors, and

Whereas, Topper McFaun's leadership potential was exhibited as captain of his high school boys' hockey and cross-country teams, and

Whereas, immediate post-high school factory employment motivated him to walk (which was more affordable than public transit) to Boston University, where he secured admission, skated as a men's hockey Terrier, and earned a bachelor's degree in education, and

Whereas, after U.S. Army service and teaching in the Cambridge, Massachusetts, public school system, Topper McFaun and his Brownsville wife, Mary Howland, moved to Vermont, where he directed a youth employment program at the formerly named Central Vermont Community Action Council Inc. and then thrived during a 38-year State executive branch career focused on human services and employment-related matters, and

Whereas, he chaired the Barre Town Selectboard, served as Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation president, and was a member of the Barre Area Development Corporation, and

Whereas, for nearly two decades, Topper McFaun coached the Spaulding High School Crimson Tide boys' hockey team, which won five Division I championship game berths and two consecutive divisional titles, and

Whereas, in 2004, Barre Town's voters elected Topper McFaun to represent them in the House of Representatives, where he was a respected legislator, developed many friendships, and served as the House Committee on Health Care vice chair, and

Whereas, on April 3, 2026, after nearly 11 terms as a distinguished and proud member of the House of Representatives, Topper McFaun said farewell to life under the Golden Dome, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Representative Francis Matthew (Topper) McFaun for his exemplary public and community service, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to former Representative Topper McFaun.