

House Resolution Adopted

H.R. 5

Mrs. Edwards of Middlebury, for the Committee on Municipal Corporations and Elections, offered a House resolution, entitled

Resolution relating to the production of documents and the appointment of members to form a committee to conduct a recount;

Whereas, the Committee on Municipal Corporations and Elections has before it the petition of Ruth Painter of Williston contesting the election of Ruth Stokes of Williston to the General Assembly from the Chittenden-4 District, and

Whereas, the Committee on Municipal Corporations and Elections has before it the petition of Bennett Greene of Westford contesting the election of Almon Woodward of Fairfax to the General Assembly from the Chittenden-Franklin-1 District, and

Whereas, the Committee met with attorneys for the respective parties on January 23, 1985, and, after taking testimony from said attorneys and reviewing the issues, the Committee has concluded that a review of the ballots, tally sheets and papers for the election is essential in its deliberations concerning this contested election, and

Whereas, the ballots are presently in the custody of the Town Clerks of Williston, Richmond, Fairfax and Westford, and

Whereas, it is the conclusion of the Committee that appropriate procedure for directing the ballots from the offices of the Town Clerks to the House of Representatives is by way of a subpoena *duces tecum*, and

Whereas, it is also the conclusion of the Committee that appropriate procedures for the counting of ballots by the agents of this House require that the ballots be counted by a committee constituted of an equal number of representatives from each party, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That for the following purposes only the Committee on Municipal Corporations and Elections be authorized to issue a subpoena *duces tecum* to obtain the production of all the ballots, documents, papers and materials not otherwise privileged relative to the elections between Ruth Painter and Ruth Stokes and between Bennett Greene and Almon Woodward held on November 6, 1984, and subsequent recount and certification, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Speaker of the House be directed to appoint four members of this House who are members of the Democratic Party to assist the members of the Municipal Corporations and Elections Committee so that the committee that counts ballots shall consist of an equal number of persons from each party.

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Committee on Municipal Corporations, entitled

Documents and the appointment of a recount;

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Members for the respective parties on behalf of said attorneys and reviewed at a review of the ballots, tallying its deliberations concerning this

Custody of the Town Clerks of and

Committee that appropriate procedure of the Town Clerks to the House *ces tecum*, and

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Committee on Municipal Corporation a subpoena *duces tecum* to records, papers and materials not between Ruth Painter and Ruth Woodward held on November on, *and be it further*

Members be directed to appoint four Democratic Party to assist the Elections Committee so that the equal number of persons from

Which was read and adopted.

Joint Resolution Adopted

J.R.H. 6

Mr. Handy of St. Albans City offered a joint resolution, entitled

Joint resolution relating to the preservation of Vermont family farms;

Whereas, Vermont is a state built on a strong agricultural foundation, whose farms have traditionally been small family operations, and

Whereas, all Vermont farmers are expected to participate in the Federal Dairy Diversion Program, established to reduce the dairy surplus, whereby farmers must pay fifty cents per hundred-weight of milk produced to the federal government, and

Whereas, this is in spite of the fact that there is no dairy surplus in Vermont or in New England, and in fact New England's dairy farms fall short of meeting the region's needs and twenty-five percent of the milk consumed must be imported from other states, and

Whereas, all dairy farms are facing enormous financial strains today, a condition which is magnified in the case of the small family farm, and

Whereas, it is essential that these small farms be preserved and maintained until a workable agricultural policy is developed by the United States Agriculture Department, and

Whereas, a delay or a failure to act to preserve family farms will surely result in the tragic loss of significant numbers of small farms, and

Whereas, it is unconscionable to penalize Vermont dairy farmers for problems originating in other parts of the country, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the Vermont Congressional Delegation should take immediate action and urge the United States Congress and the United States Secretary of Agriculture to exempt dairy farms of less than fifty cattle from the Federal Dairy Diversion Program or from any other federal assessment program, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation and to the United States Secretary of Agriculture.

Which was read and adopted on the part of the House.

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred or placed on Calendar as follows: