

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

**HOUSE AND SENATE
CALENDAR**

**Text of House and Senate
Concurrent Resolutions**

of

March 2, 2017

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

Resolutions

H.C.R. 54.

House concurrent resolution in memory of Marilyn Carlson Childs of Chelsea

Offered by: Representatives Frenier of Chelsea and Graham of Williamstown

Whereas, Marilyn Childs graduated from the Springfield, Massachusetts, public schools; earned a bachelor's degree from American International College; and pursued graduate studies at Springfield College and the University of Vermont, and

Whereas, her journalism career began at the *Springfield* (Massachusetts) *Union* in 1940, the same year she graduated from high school, and

Whereas, for many years, students at Chelsea High School knew Marilyn Childs as a respected educator who taught English, French, journalism, composition and speech; served as a guidance counselor and assistant principal; coached outstanding forensics teams that won 10 State championships and other debating honors; was twice named as Vermont Debate Coach of the Year; and taught her students to respect the power of the English language, and

Whereas, Marilyn Childs was a civic and political leader, serving as a Chelsea Justice of the Peace, chairing the town's Republican committee, and sitting on the party's county and State committees, and

Whereas, starting at nine years of age and for 60 years thereafter, Marilyn Childs was in the saddle or engaged in a variety of equestrian-related roles, including editing specialized periodicals, writing five topically related books, serving as a licensed judge and steward of the American Horse Show Association, and directing the American Morgan Horse Association, and she was 1975's Morgan Horse Woman of the Year, and

Whereas, Marilyn C. Childs died at 93 years of age on December 16, 2016, and her survivors include her sons, David, Robert, and Carl; six grandsons; two granddaughters; and a great-grandson, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Marilyn Carlson Childs of Chelsea, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Marilyn C. Childs's family.

H.C.R. 55.

House concurrent resolution honoring Wardsboro Town Moderator Robert Backus M.D. for his nearly four decades of exemplary practice of medicine in southern Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Sabilia of Dover, Long of Newfane, Olsen of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Burke of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster, Gannon of Wilmington, Mrowicki of Putney, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Trieber of Rockingham

Offered by: Senators Balint and White

Whereas, a caring country doctor, reminiscent of a bygone era, is an accurate description of Dr. Robert Backus who as a youth knew he wanted to become a family doctor, and

Whereas, he graduated from the University of Nevada at Reno, having also studied at the University of Massachusetts and Dartmouth College, served in the Peace Corps, and, finding Vermont most alluring, earned his medical degree at the University of Vermont (UVM), and

Whereas, along the way toward his medical degree, his employment experiences included working as a day nurse, an orderly, and on a rescue squad, and

Whereas, once he completed medical internships in Adelaide, Australia, Dr. Robert Backus returned to Vermont and accepted a position at Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend, and

Whereas, following completion of a family medicine residency at UVM, he returned to Townshend and entered private practice, and

Whereas, Dr. Robert Backus, who is board certified in family and geriatric medicine and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Geriatrics Society, has described the small and nonprofit Grace Cottage Hospital, where he has continued to be employed, as "the greatest community-development project I've ever seen," and

Whereas, his dedication to this unique medical center involves extensive fundraising work that he conducts with a passion, and

Whereas, his patients revere him, and he places great importance on continuously updating his medical knowledge, and

Whereas, since 2006, Dr. Robert Backus has exercised his discerning judgment presiding as the Wardsboro Town Moderator, and

Whereas, on March 9, 2017, an era in southern Vermont's health care will end when Dr. Robert Backus concludes his full-time practice of medicine, but fortunately, he will remain associated with Grace College Hospital, focusing on fundraising and the addition of a gerontology practice, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Wardsboro Town Moderator Robert Backus M.D. for his nearly four decades of exemplary practice of medicine in southern Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dr. Robert Backus.

H.C.R. 56.

House concurrent resolution remembering the late Grace Weber for her enthusiastic dedication to serving the Town of Weybridge

Offered by: Representative Smith of New Haven

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Bray

Whereas, Grace Weber had an infectious and joyful personality that enticed others to participate in important community activities, and

Whereas, her husband, Steve, and she moved to Weybridge in 1991, and she immersed herself in diverse town roles, making many friends in the process, and

Whereas, one of her official municipal jobs was serving as town agent, and she performed its duties in a responsible manner, and

Whereas, a far more participatory, dependent role was her service as Weybridge's recycling coordinator, and

Whereas, in this position, Grace Weber recruited Saturday morning volunteers to work at the recycling station, and she developed an expertise as a human compactor instructor, teaching the volunteers how to climb into a dumpster and force fit the maximum amount of recycled materials into the limited available space, and

Whereas, these dumpster and other recycling adventures contributed to her signature humorous recycling reports at town meeting, and

Whereas, Grace Weber was actively involved with the Weybridge Volunteer Fire Department and her local church, and

Whereas, she was an instrumental organizer of town picnics, and her delicious home-baked treats added to these events' festivities, and

Whereas, Grace Weber designed an English grammar curriculum that she assisted in teaching at the Weybridge Elementary School and St. Mary's School in Middlebury, and

Whereas, a passionate lover of the Italian language, Grace Weber organized and participated in Italian conversation groups, and Steve and she traveled to Italy on a number of occasions, and

Whereas, Grace Weber was an enthusiastic singer who performed at school talent shows and other local venues, extending from Middlebury to Burlington, often with Steve providing piano accompaniment, and

Whereas, her love of life and endearing friendship left a wonderful impression on her Weybridge neighbors, who mourned her death in December 2016, and the 2016 Weybridge Town Report was dedicated in her honor as a fond farewell and truly merited tribute, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly remembers the late Grace Weber for her enthusiastic dedication to serving the Town of Weybridge, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Steve Weber and to the Town of Weybridge.

H.C.R. 57.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the winners of the 2017 Entrepreneurship Education student competition

Offered by: Representatives Jickling of Brookfield, Hooper of Brookfield, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Cupoli of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Giambatista of Essex, Houghton of Essex, and Walz of Barre City

Whereas, enabling secondary school students to explore the exciting world of entrepreneurship was the aim of the 2017 Entrepreneurship student competition, and

Whereas, this friendly, but nonetheless competitive, event was conducted under the joint auspices of the Vermont office of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Vermont Small Business Development Center, various Vermont Career and Technical Center student organizations, the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Vermont Business Education Corporation, with the cooperative support of schools throughout the State, and

Whereas, the participating secondary school students were challenged to design either a bumper sticker or video public service announcement, or both, focused on the theme “VT Entrepreneurship... innovation and creativity,” and

Whereas, the judges, following the receipt of many outstanding entries in December 2016, had the difficult assignment to assess the submissions’ textual and artistic content and overall effectiveness and then designate the award winners, and

Whereas, on February 9, 2017, over 125 students, plus teachers, student advisors, and business and government leaders gathered in Montpelier for Entrepreneurship Day, and the announcement of the awards was a highlight of the day’s activities, and

Whereas, in the bumper sticker category, the winners were first place, Alexander Simonenko (Central Vermont Career Center); second place, Mei Cen “Eva” Yi (St. Johnsbury Academy); third place, Benjamin Richards and Haleigh Molinario (Randolph Career and Technical Center); and honorable mention Eli Gignoux (Stafford Technical Center), Jordan Horne and Sheyenne Miller (Randolph Career and Technical Center), and Mayla Mashteare (Essex Career and Technical Center), and

Whereas, in the video public service announcement category, the winning students were first place, Harrison Steever, Tiana Sanchez, and Nick Fish (Stafford Technical Center); and second place, Naomi Husher, Amber Silloway, Bruce Bradbury, and Jack Warren (Randolph Career and Technical Center), now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winners of the 2017 Entrepreneurship Education student competition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each student honored in this resolution.

H.C.R. 58.

House concurrent resolution honoring Michael Arnowitz for his musical contributions to the Vermont artistic scene

Offered by: Representatives Kitzmiller of Montpelier and Hooper of Montpelier

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Brooks, and Pollina

Whereas, pianist and composer Michael Arnowitz’s early musical achievements included selection as a Presidential Scholar in the Arts, and

Whereas, he studied at the Juilliard School in New York, the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, and at other academic centers, and

Whereas, Michael Arnowitt has appeared twice as a piano soloist with the Boston Symphony and has also been featured in solo performances with a variety of other distinguished musical ensembles, and

Whereas, in 2015, he finished his 26-year-long project to perform the complete 32 Beethoven piano sonatas with the pianist playing them when his age corresponded to Beethoven's at the time of a sonata's composition, and

Whereas, Michael Arnowitt has organized many benefit concerts, and

Whereas, as artistic director of the Vermont Millennium Music Festival, he programmed musical selections from the years 1000 to 2000, and

Whereas, Michael Arnowitt has conducted seven concert tours of Europe and recorded five discs of piano music, and

Whereas, he is also an avid jazz musician, and

Whereas, the film *Beyond 88 Keys* documented his career, and

Whereas, *Rutland Herald-Times Argus* music critic Jim Lowe has written that Michael Arnowitt has "sparked a classical music renaissance in central Vermont" with his intriguing and exciting programs, and

Whereas, after over three decades of residency in Montpelier, Michael Arnowitt is relocating to Michigan and performed today's musical devotional to open the House of Representatives' legislative day as a special farewell to Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Michael Arnowitt for his musical contributions to the Vermont artistic scene, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Michael Arnowitt of Montpelier.

H.C.R. 59.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former St. Albans Fire Chief Gary Glendon Palmer of Georgia

Offered by: Representatives Rosenquist of Georgia, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Gamache of Swanton, Hubert of Milton, Keenan of St. Albans City, Parent of St. Albans Town, Savage of Swanton, and Turner of Milton

Offered by: Senators Branagan and Degree

Whereas, firefighting was Gary Palmer's life career, and he was a mentor for many of his professional colleagues, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer was born in St. Albans and in 1967 graduated from Bellows Free Academy, and

Whereas, in 1971, he joined the St. Albans Fire Department and as a rookie on the force proved an attentive student, and

Whereas, during the next 13 years, Gary Palmer rose steadily through the department's ranks, impressing his superiors, and

Whereas, in 1984, the St. Albans Fire Department named Gary Palmer as its chief, and

Whereas, for 23 years, Chief Gary Palmer served with distinction, proving an ideal leader for the department as it extinguished blazes in St. Albans and provided mutual firefighting aid for neighboring communities, and

Whereas, in 2007, after 36 years as a valued member of the St. Albans Fire Department, Chief Gary Palmer concluded his public service in Franklin County's largest municipality, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer's departure from St. Albans could not be characterized as a retirement from the firefighting profession as he assumed a new role as Assistant State Fire Marshall, and

Whereas, in the field, Gary Palmer continued responding to the Georgia Volunteer Fire Department's alarm for assistance, serving his community with the proficient skills he had mastered during an illustrious firefighting career, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer was an avid deer hunter who enjoyed annual Palmer Boys fall outings as well as maple sugaring in the spring and family camping in the summer, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer and his wife, Mary, were married for 43 years, and were the parents of Tamera and Timothy, and the grandparents of five grandchildren and four stepgrandchildren, and

Whereas, on January 16, 2017, Gary Palmer died at 68 years of age, leaving a legacy of firefighting excellence for others to emulate, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Gary Palmer of Georgia, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Gary Palmer's family.

H.C.R. 60.

House concurrent resolution in memory of John William Reagan of Wilmington and West Wardsboro

Offered by: Representatives Sibia of Dover, Gannon of Wilmington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Burke of Brattleboro, Corcoran of Bennington, Deen of Westminster, Fields of Bennington, Hebert of Vernon, Keefe of Manchester, Long of Newfane, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Olsen of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Dorset, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Trieber of Rockingham

Offered by: Senators Campion, Sears, Balint, and White

Whereas, a central attraction in the town of Wilmington is the renowned Dot's Restaurant that *Gourmet Magazine* has called "a national treasure," and that other publications, including *Vermont Life* and several skiing magazines, have praised, and

Whereas, John Reagan was born in 1952 on Long Island, New York where he graduated from General Douglas MacArthur High School, and

Whereas, seeking an alternative to suburbia, in 1978, John Reagan moved to Wilmington, working in different Deerfield Valley restaurants, and

Whereas, in the early 1980s, he acquired the 185-yearold building that had housed a restaurant since 1930, and was originally Wilmington's U.S. Post Office, and

Whereas, John Reagan soon opted to rename this well-known eatery Dot's Restaurant, and it continued to attract enthusiastic local residents and vacationers visiting southern Vermont, and

Whereas, in 1984, Patty Bemis of Jacksonville applied for a waitressing job, John Reagan promptly hired then fired her, officially for not showing up to work on time, but they later married, and ever since have been devoted business and life partners, and

Whereas, although a purveyor of fantastic and popular meals, Dot's Restaurant is precariously located adjacent to the Deerfield River, and when Tropical Storm Irene devastated the town of Wilmington in 2011, it severely damaged Dot's home, and

Whereas, the establishment's future at first appeared dubious, but with a persevering spirit and financial support from many individuals, the Friends of the Valley Foundation, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, and the Wilmington Fund, Dot's Restaurant triumphantly reopened in 2013, and its elegant restoration was awarded a 2014 Preservation Trust of Vermont award "for preserving Vermont's historic architecture," and

Whereas, on February 13, 2017, John Reagan's many friends were saddened to learn of this extraordinary restaurateur's death from cancer, and his survivors include his wife, Patty; his brother, Paul; and his sisters, Phyllis and Betsey, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of John William Reagan, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of John Reagan's family.

H.C.R. 61.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Madison Cota of Bellows Falls on being named Miss Vermont USA 2017

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, Madison Cota is from Bellows Falls, and

Whereas, upon graduating from Vermont Academy in Saxtons River, Madison Cota has continued her education at Lasell College in Newton, Massachusetts where she is now a junior and is majoring in fashion merchandising, and

Whereas, her career goal is to work in the performance apparel industry, enabling her to combine an interest in fashion with her love of outdoor activities, such as hiking in Vermont's mountains, and

Whereas, aside from her studies, Madison Cota is a star player and co-captain of the college's Division III women's basketball team and has compiled an impressive record of points scored, assists, and rebounds, and

Whereas, although academics and athletics occupy much of Madison Cota's schedule, she has pursued successfully another interest as a pageant contestant, and

Whereas, in 2014, Madison Cota's hard work and tenacity earned her the Miss Vermont Teen USA title, and

Whereas, seeking to win an even more prestigious pageant crown, Madison Cota entered the 2017 Miss Vermont USA contest this past November in Stowe, and

Whereas, she excelled in each of the event's three categories: swimsuit, evening gown, and interview, and

Whereas, Madison Cota was especially proud of her performance in the interview, which is her favorite segment of the competition, and

Whereas, the judges were extremely impressed with Madison Cota's results in all the categories as she won the coveted 2017 Miss Vermont USA crown, and

Whereas, as Miss Vermont, she is speaking across Vermont on the importance of organ donation with the goal of increasing the number of registered donors, and

Whereas, Madison Cota will represent the Green Mountain State at the 2017 Miss USA pageant, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Madison Cota of Bellows Falls on being named Miss Vermont USA 2017 and wishes her every success in the Miss USA pageant and in her academic and athletic pursuits, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 62.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Pownal Town Clerk Rachel Mason

Offered by: Representatives Botzow of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Rachel (Fowler) Mason was born in Pownal on February 24, 1918 when Vermonters were focused on the Great War raging in Europe, and

Whereas, she was educated in the Pownal public schools and graduated from the former Bennington High School, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason was actively involved in Pownal municipal government for many decades, having served as town clerk and treasurer for 39 consecutive years until her retirement in 1991, and

Whereas, under Rachel Mason's thoughtful direction, Pownal conducted local, State, and federal elections and maintained its municipal records in an organized manner, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason's municipal government roles also included service as a town auditor and member of the board of civil authority, and

Whereas, her career as a municipal government leader was only one aspect of Rachel Mason's active civic engagement, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason was a recognized community poet who wrote of her town's history and her own life in lively verse, and

Whereas, in 2010, shortly before her 92nd birthday, Rachel Mason recited a sample of her Pownal history poetry at the town's 250th anniversary celebration, and her reading was posted on YouTube, and

Whereas, for an impressive 80 years, Rachel Mason was a member of the Bennington Grange and served in many leadership positions, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason volunteered for both the local 4-H and the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, and

Whereas, the Camp Ondawa Association appreciated her fine work as one of its trustees, and

Whereas, worshipers at the Second Congregational Church in Bennington knew Rachel Mason as a member of their congregation, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason died on August 31, 2016, and her survivors include her four children, David, Doris, Connie, and Terri; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of former Pownal Town Clerk Rachel Mason, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Rachel Mason's family.

H.C.R. 63.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Nancy Coleman of Woodford on being selected as the 2016 Vermont State School Nurse of the Year

Offered by: Representatives Botzow of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, school nurses are the first medical resource for students, faculty, and staff who become ill during the school day, and

Whereas, these medical professionals design health education programs for students, and

Whereas, the Vermont State School Nurses' Association (VSSNA) is the membership organization that offers guidance and a professional forum for Vermont's dedicated school nurses, and

Whereas, annually, the VSSNA recognizes one of its accomplished members as the Vermont State School Nurse of the Year, and

Whereas, at its most recent fall conference held in Brattleboro, the VSSNA presented the 2016 award to Nancy Coleman of Woodford, who is the school nurse at the Mt. Anthony Union Middle School (MAUMS), and

Whereas, Nancy Coleman has worked as a school nurse for 22 years, is a great advocate on behalf of her school's students and their families, and has earned the MAUMS community's trust and respect, and

Whereas, her excellent credentials, in addition to her nursing degree, include certification as a first aid and CPR instructor and a master's degree in education, and

Whereas, Nancy Coleman has been a leading member of the VSSNA, having served on the organization's board of directors and in senior leadership positions, including conference chair, secretary, treasurer, and president, and

Whereas, as a VSSNA officer, Nancy Coleman played a key role in the drafting and implementation of the organization's operating guidelines, and

Whereas, for many years, organizing VSSNA conferences has been a special responsibility for Nancy Coleman, and she performs this task effectively and with the gratitude of her school nursing colleagues, and

Whereas, as a National Association of School Nurses Director, her excellent leadership skills have been applied beyond Vermont's borders, and

Whereas, Nancy Coleman's selection as the 2016 Vermont State School Nurse of the Year was a well-deserved recognition of her outstanding service as a school nurse, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Nancy Coleman of Woodford on being selected as the 2016 Vermont State School Nurse of the Year, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 64.

House concurrent resolution honoring Tunbridge Fire Chief John W. Durkee for 20 years of exemplary leadership

Offered by: Representative Ainsworth of Royalton

Whereas, volunteer fire departments perform an essential public safety role in municipalities throughout Vermont, and

Whereas, the Vermonters serving as volunteer firefighters are dedicated citizens, making extraordinary personal sacrifices to protect their neighbors' lives and property, and

Whereas, 36 years ago, John Durkee joined the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department (the department) and has been an active member ever since, and

Whereas, he mastered the technical and leadership skills necessary to perform his firefighting duties expertly and assist in guiding the department's administrative deliberations, and

Whereas, 20 years ago, John Durkee assumed the position of Tunbridge Fire Chief, and

Whereas, Chief Durkee's incredible dedication to ensuring the safety of Tunbridge's residents and visitors is widely admired, and

Whereas, he contributed to the development of a viable emergency management plan for Tunbridge, and

Whereas, similarly, Chief Durkee's foresight enabled the town to develop an effective emergency response protocol should a major accident or fire occur during the Tunbridge World's Fair or at another event held at the town's fairgrounds, and

Whereas, Chief Durkee is a conscientious steward of his town's financial resources, and he determined that Tunbridge could function with one fewer fire truck, and

Whereas, he spearheaded the development of a long-range budgetary plan for replacing dated equipment, and

Whereas, under Chief Durkee's leadership, Tunbridge invested in a fire truck employing an innovative compressed air foam system that can combat fires more efficiently than other equipment, and

Whereas, after an outstanding 20-year tenure as the Tunbridge Fire Chief, John Durkee is concluding his leadership role but will remain a proud Tunbridge firefighter, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Tunbridge Fire Chief John W. Durkee for 20 years of exemplary leadership, and be it further

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

H.C.R. 65.

House concurrent resolution honoring Judy Stratton for her 35 years of exemplary public service as the Shaftsbury Town Clerk

Offered by: Representative Miller of Shaftsbury

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Judy Stratton graduated from high school in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, she subsequently took courses at both Southern Vermont College in Bennington and the College of St. Joseph in Rutland, and

Whereas, Judy Stratton is the mother of three children and the grandmother of five grandchildren, and

Whereas, in 1982, Judy Stratton decided to stand for election as the Shaftsbury Town Clerk, and the voters at town meeting selected her for the position, and

Whereas, she performs her municipal administrative duties in the most professional manner, and

Whereas, Judy Stratton is known in Shaftsbury as a town clerk who goes the extra mile to help the town's residents and others seeking her office's services, and

Whereas, her peers respect her, and she was awarded the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association's Clerk of the Year Award, and

Whereas, the media has recognized Judy Stratton's expertise on election procedures, and she was interviewed on Vermont Public Radio shortly before the 2010 election, and

Whereas, she has created a colorful, easy-to-understand, and highly informative guide for newly elected justices of the peace that the Vermont Clerks' and Treasurers' Association has published on its website, and

Whereas, Shaftsbury has been most fortunate to have Judy Stratton serve as its town clerk for the past 35 years and will miss her presence and superb service after she steps down from her post on Town Meeting Day 2017, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Judy Stratton for her 35 years of exemplary public service as the Shaftsbury Town Clerk, and be it further

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

S.C.R. 9.

By Senators Kitchel, Ashe, Benning, Branagan, Brooks, Collamore, Degree, Mazza, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Starr, and Westman,

By Representatives Conquest of Newbury, Martel of Waterford, Batchelor of Derby, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Emmons of Springfield, Feltus of Lyndon, Higley of Lowell, Keefe of Manchester, and Lawrence of Lyndon,

S.C.R. 9. Senate concurrent resolution honoring former Representative

Jennifer R. Nelson of Ryegate for her exemplary career in public service and agriculture.

Whereas, Jenny Nelson has devoted her professional life to serving other Vermonters on the municipal, State, and federal levels of government and working to improve, as well as personally participating in, Vermont's agricultural economy, and

Whereas, she graduated from Mt. Anthony Union High School and the University of Vermont, and

Whereas, although originally from southern Vermont, since marrying William Nelson, she has resided on the family's dairy farm, Home Acres Farm, in Ryegate Corner, and

Whereas, Jenny Nelson held a leadership position at Rural Vermont and was active on topics of concern to Vermont's farming community, and

Whereas, one of her agricultural endeavors was working as an editor of food-related publications, and

Whereas, she has served as a member of the Ryegate Board of Civil Authority, and

Whereas, during the 1997–1998 Biennium, Jenny Nelson served in the House of Representatives as the member from Ryegate and, not surprisingly, sat on the House Committee on Agriculture, and

Whereas, since 1999, she has served as an agricultural policy adviser for then U.S. Representative and now U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders' staff, working directly with farmers statewide but especially in the Northeast Kingdom, and her personal farming experience has proven invaluable, and

Whereas, although primarily focused on agricultural matters, Jenny Nelson has also addressed other public policy topics from U.S. Senator Sanders' St. Johnsbury office, and

Whereas, she proudly serves on the Board of Advisors of the University of Vermont's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and

Whereas, in 2017, Jenny Nelson is concluding her career as a congressional staffer, and her role in agricultural policy development in the State will not be filled easily, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Representative Jennifer R. Nelson of Ryegate for her exemplary career in public service and agriculture, *and be it further*

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