

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

March 1, 2012

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16

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

Resolutions

H.C.R. 278.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, "The Wall," in Washington, D.C. and all Vietnam War Veterans

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, over eight million Americans answered their country's call to arms during the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, it is important to remember always those members of the American Armed Forces from across the nation who made the ultimate sacrifice when called to serve their nation in the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, "The Wall," was erected in 1982 in Washington, D.C. as a fitting tribute to the memory of those young men and women, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly highly commends all Vietnam veterans and their families for their outstanding service to the United States, Southeast Asia, and the world, and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly commends and applauds the upcoming 30th anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, "The Wall," in Washington, D.C., and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly calls upon all citizens to participate in special observances surrounding the 30th anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, "The Wall," in Washington, D.C. on Veterans Day, November 11, 2012, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont State Council of the Vietnam Veterans of America.

H.C.R. 279.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Vermont Vietnam Veterans Memorial and all Vietnam War Veterans

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, over 19,000 Vermonters served during the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, the first Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the United States was dedicated on October 30, 1982 in Sharon, Vermont as a fitting tribute to the memory of those Vermonters who lost their lives in the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, it is important to remember always those members of the American Armed Forces from both Vermont and across the nation who made the ultimate sacrifice when called to serve their nation in the Vietnam War, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly highly commends all Vietnam veterans and their families for their outstanding service to Vermont, the United States, Southeast Asia, and the world, and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly commends and applauds the upcoming 30th anniversary of the dedication of the Vermont Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and be it further

Resolved: That the General Assembly calls upon all citizens to participate in special observances surrounding the 30th anniversary of the dedication of the Vermont Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Sharon, Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont State Council of the Vietnam Veterans of America.

H.C.R. 280.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the town of Bristol

Offered by: Representatives Sharpe of Bristol and Fisher of Lincoln

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, on June 26, 1762, the Royal Governor of New Hampshire granted to a group of proprietors a charter for a tract of land to consist of 23,600 acres, and each proprietor was instructed to cultivate within a period of five years five acres of every 50 acres granted, and

Whereas, the tract’s boundaries were described as “Beginning at the North Easterly Corner of New Haven from thence South six Miles by New Haven . . . to the south Easterly Corner thereof, then turning off & runing East, four Miles & one half Mile to a marked Tree . . . ,” and

Whereas, the township was named Pocock and was not renamed Bristol until the Vermont General Assembly passed an act that became effective on October 21, 1789, enacted possibly in recognition of settlers from Bristol, Connecticut, and

Whereas, although the charter provided for the first town meeting to be conducted on the first Wednesday in August 1762, the first actual organizational meeting of the town’s citizens did not take place until March 2, 1789, at which Henry McLaughlin was chosen moderator and clerk, and

Whereas, the first of three log cabin schoolhouses was erected in 1789, and the first religious congregation organized in Bristol was the Baptist Church in 1794, and

Whereas, agriculture was an important economic activity in Bristol as were mills, with the first sawmill established by Amos Scott in 1791, and the first gristmill was erected in 1792, and

Whereas, the town hall known as Holley Hall was opened in 1884 and included a 500-seat meeting room for town meetings and other events, and

Whereas, for nearly a century starting in 1879, Bristol’s residents kept informed of local happenings from the *Bristol Herald*, and beginning in 1892 the six-mile-long Bristol Railroad was operating from Bristol to New Haven, and for many years the town had its own airport, and

Whereas, Bristol is now a commercial center in Addison County; since 1968, it has been the home of Mount Abraham Union High School, located at the site of the former Bristol Airport; and 2012 marks the sesquicentennial of Bristol’s chartering, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the town of Bristol, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Bristol town clerk.

H.C.R. 281.

House concurrent resolution honoring radio station WBTN-AM in Bennington for its public service broadcasting during Tropical Storm Irene

Offered by: Representatives Condon of Colchester, Morrissey of Bennington, Mook of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Campion of Bennington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington and Malcolm of Pawlet

Offered by: Senators Sears and Hartwell

Whereas, the mission of Bennington radio station WBTN-AM (1370) is to serve “as a community resource with the potential to express and enhance the lives of the people of the community,” including the airing of radio programs that are “positively influential,” and

Whereas, this broadcasting objective was mightily effectuated on August 28, 2011 as Tropical Storm Irene pounded the Bennington area, and

Whereas, the station’s informative and timely coverage began two days before Irene’s predicted arrival in Bennington when WBTN-AM Executive Director John Likakis developed a broadcasting plan and, along with producer Lexey Covell, met with town officials and emergency responders to coordinate their efforts, and

Whereas, John Likakis arrived at the WBTN-AM studio before 7 a.m. on the day of the storm, and chief volunteer Jim Marshall supervised a continuous pumping operation to assure that encroaching waters did not flood out the station’s headquarters located in a former bomb shelter, and

Whereas, Bennington Town Manager Stuart Hurd, Chief of Police Paul Doucette, and other local government officials worked cooperatively with WBTN-AM throughout the emergency to provide listeners with the most immediate status of road closings, evacuations, power outages, and other pertinent facts, and

Whereas, John Likakis remained behind the microphone that terrible Sunday for over 12 hours, and WBTN-AM volunteer David Lively continued the on-air reports for a further 90 minutes of wrap-up, and

Whereas, the residents of Bennington and environs were grateful to WBTN-AM for assisting them in coping during the onslaught of Tropical Storm Irene, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Bennington radio station WBTN-AM for its public service broadcasting during Tropical Storm Irene, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John Likakis at radio station WBTN-AM in Bennington.

H.C.R. 282.

House concurrent resolution expressing solidarity with the people of Japan on the first anniversary of the 2011 triple disaster

Offered by: Representatives Mrowicki of Putney, Bartholomew of Hartland, Buxton of Tunbridge, Clarkson of Woodstock, Conquest of Newbury, Davis of Washington, Donahue of Northfield, Edwards of Brattleboro, Evans of Essex, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Shrewsbury, Haas of Rochester, Jerman of Essex, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lenes of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Malcolm of Pawlet, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Wolcott, McCullough of Williston, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, Pearson of Burlington, Peltz of Woodbury, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Sharpe of Bristol, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Waterbury, Sweaney of Windsor, Till of Jericho, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Wizowaty of Burlington, Woodward of Johnson, Yantachka of Charlotte and Young of Glover

Whereas, on Friday, March 11, 2011, at 2:46 p.m. local time, the nation of Japan suffered a national tragedy of epic proportions that the Japanese prime minister described as his nation's worst crisis since World War II, and

Whereas, at that moment, an earthquake, which the United States Geological Survey has classified as reaching a 9.0 magnitude, struck Japan's most populous island, Honshu, with an unbelievably intense fury, and

Whereas, some authorities have characterized this earthquake as the worst to ever hit Japan, and this massive earthquake which struck the area surrounding the city of Sendai especially hard was felt many miles away in Tokyo, and

Whereas, unfortunately, the earthquake was merely the first act of a larger tragedy as shortly thereafter a huge tsunami, packing ocean waves nearly 50 feet high, struck coastal communities still experiencing aftershocks from the earthquake, and

Whereas, despite a network of protective seawalls and high-tech tsunami warning devices that are considered the best on earth, the rapidity and mammoth amount of the water's onslaught were impossible for thousands to escape, and

Whereas, these natural disasters precipitated a third catastrophe when the nuclear complex at Fukushima I and II was flooded and severely damaged, precipitating a crisis, the repercussions of which continue to this day, and

Whereas, during the height of the resulting emergency, nearly 500,000 persons sought shelter, and while the exact number of deaths may never be known, over 15,000 individuals were confirmed dead, and many thousands lost their homes and livelihoods, and

Whereas, extensive coastal infrastructure and entire communities were destroyed, and their reconstruction will involve a long, expensive, difficult, and painful rebuilding process, and

Whereas, the people of Japan have suffered enormously, and this past year has been that nation's most emotionally difficult since World War II, and

Whereas, the first anniversary of the triple disasters of March 11, 2011 is a moment for Vermonters to reflect on the continued hardship and trauma the Japanese people are experiencing and to express a hope for a brighter future for Japan, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its solidarity with the people of Japan on the first anniversary of the March 2011 triple disaster, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Takeshi Hikihara, Consul General of Japan in Boston.

H.C.R. 283.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative Harvey B. Otterman Jr. of Topsham

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, former Representative Harvey "Bud" Otterman was one of the most admired and respected members of the House, and his courtesy, diligence, intellect, and, most important, personal integrity were apparent to all, regardless of political affiliation, and

Whereas, Bud Otterman was born in our nation's capital, where he graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School, and

Whereas, he soon thereafter joined the United States Navy, and in 1946, at the age of 19, he completed flight training, becoming one of the youngest pilots ever to fly for the United States Navy, and

Whereas, upon his honorable military discharge, Bud Otterman entered George Washington University, from which he graduated with a law degree in 1950, and

Whereas, with his newly earned professional credential in hand, Bud Otterman headed for Vermont, beginning a legal career that would continue for the next half century, and

Whereas, an interest in criminal law combined with a desire for public service led Bud Otterman to stand for election as Orange County State's Attorney, and he directed that county government's prosecutorial efforts from 1952 to 1958, and

Whereas, Bud Otterman won the respect of his peers and was elected to serve in important professional offices, including terms as President of the Vermont Bar Association and of the New England Bar Association, and the Vermont Supreme Court appointed him to chair the professional conduct board, and

Whereas, in the General Assembly, former Representative Bud Otterman served on the House Committee on Ways and Means, including service as the committee's knowledgeable and trusted vice chair, and

Whereas, aside from his professional and legislative work, Bud Otterman was a dedicated youth hockey and baseball coach, and

Whereas, former Representative Bud Otterman died on January 2, 2012, and his survivors include his wife, Joanna Ellis, sons, Stephen, David, and Thomas, seven grandchildren, and six 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 Representative Bud Otterman, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to his wife and each of his three sons.

H.C.R. 284.

House concurrent resolution honoring Orange clerk-treasurer Rita Bisson for her outstanding 33 years of public service

Offered by: Representatives Winters of Williamstown and Davis of Washington

Offered by: Senators Benning and Kitchel

Whereas, in 1979, the selectboard of the town of Orange appointed Rita Bisson to fill a vacancy in the offices of town clerk and treasurer, and

Whereas, she performed her municipal administrative and financial duties conscientiously, effectively, and efficiently, and

Whereas, on town meeting day in 1980, the voters of the town of Orange took note of her excellent work record and elected Rita Bisson to the two offices for a term of her own and have always renewed her electorally based contract when it was up for renewal, and

Whereas, Rita Bisson's duties extended beyond her elected roles, as she has simultaneously for the last 33 years also served as treasurer for the local school district, and

Whereas, she oversaw the school district's fiscal affairs with the same detailed attention that she applied to her treasurer's responsibilities on behalf of the town of Orange, and

Whereas, the Orange selectboard has appreciated the thorough and timely manner in which Rita Bisson has attended to the tasks associated with serving as the board's administrative assistant, and

Whereas, Rita Bisson has played a major role in the smooth operation of polling and vote tabulation activities on election day and the procedures associated with property tax appeals, and

Whereas, were all of these myriad tasks not sufficient to keep Rita Bisson fully engaged, she has also served for many years as a board member of the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, and

Whereas, Rita Bisson has strong personal ties to the town of Orange where she and her husband Gerard Bisson operated a dairy farm, and

Whereas, they are the parents of two daughters and the grandparents of one grandchild, and

Whereas, after 33 years of faithful and extraordinary public service on behalf of the town of Orange and its school district, Rita Bisson has decided not to seek reelection as town clerk and treasurer at the 2012 Orange town meeting, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Orange clerk-treasurer Rita Bisson for her outstanding 33 years of public service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Rita Bisson in Orange.

H.C.R. 285.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the Essex County towns of Averill, Bloomfield, Lemington, and Lewis

Offered by: Representatives Johnson of Canaan, Peaslee of Guildhall and Devereux of Mount Holly

Offered by: Senators Illuzzi and Starr

Whereas, the state of Vermont declared its legal existence and independence from Great Britain in January 1777, but many towns in the newly formed state had already been incorporated, and

Whereas, prior to January 1777 and for a number of years thereafter, both New Hampshire and New York claimed political jurisdiction over the territory now consisting of the state of Vermont, resulting in violent disputes over the validity of municipal incorporation charters that New Hampshire's Royal Governor Benning Wentworth was liberally issuing for large fees, and

Whereas, defense of the New Hampshire grants was the catalyst for the formation of Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys, and

Whereas, aside from the reservation of a large parcel for Governor Wentworth's personal use, these charters, typically six miles square in size, required that five acres of each grantee's land be cultivated within five years, a directive that not infrequently was ignored, and

Whereas, it was not unusual for many years to pass before a town saw its first settler, who often was not one of the proprietors, and

Whereas, these grants of town charters extended across the state and to the far northern frontier within the boundaries of Essex County and the area popularly and proudly known as the Northeast Kingdom, and

Whereas, in 2012, in Essex County, the organized towns of Bloomfield and Lemington and the unified town of Lewis are each observing the 250th anniversary of their legal establishment, and

Whereas, these organized towns remain among the most sparsely populated in Vermont and are proud of their rugged rural heritage, and the unified town of Averill has a grand population, according to the 2010 United States Census, of 24, and the unified town of Lewis's population stands at zero, the same as in 1762, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the Essex County towns of Averill, Bloomfield, Lemington, and Lewis, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the town clerk of each organized municipality honored in this

resolution and to the supervisor of unified towns and gores in Essex County in Island Pond.

H.C.R. 286.

House concurrent resolution honoring Big Heavy World and its volunteer staff for its significant 15-year contribution to music and the creative economy in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Lorber of Burlington, Aswad of Burlington, Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Donovan of Burlington, Krowinski of Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pearson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Taylor of Barre City, Wizowaty of Burlington and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, for 15 years, the Big Heavy World Foundation, Inc., known to friends and the community as "Big Heavy World," has fostered and cheered musicians of Vermont, and

Whereas, with an abundance of goodwill, Big Heavy World has traditionally opened its doors, at its expense, provided regional musicians free use of the foundation's resources, and gladly responded to inquiries from musicians and the public about the regional music industry, and

Whereas, since its establishment in 1996, Big Heavy World has published a free public directory of musical artists throughout the state, and has established and administers the free and public Vermont Music Library & Shop in which the cultural legacy of many of Vermont's musical artists is treasured and preserved, and

Whereas, Big Heavy World's musical heritage and showcase projects include educational events, compilation recordings, community discussions, broadcasts, and the distribution of multimedia programming, and

Whereas, the organization's volunteer staff, consisting primarily of young adults, devotes many hours to promoting and preserving Vermont's musical cultural heritage, and the staff members gain invaluable professional and civic engagement experience, and

Whereas, the offices of Big Heavy World provide an out-of-school environment where youths are encouraged to take pride in their personal accomplishments under the guidance of responsible adult role models, and

Whereas, Big Heavy World contributes to Vermont's much-admired, culturally centered, creative economy, both directly and in the development of the community assets of cultural and social capital, and

Whereas, Big Heavy World has earned praise from the private and public sectors for the worthiness of its goals, the success of its programs, and its promotion and preservation of musical life in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Big Heavy World and its volunteer staff for its significant 15-year contribution to music and the creative economy in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Big Heavy World Executive Director James Lockridge in Burlington.

H.C.R. 287.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th charter anniversary of the town of Shaftsbury

Offered by: Representative Miller of Shaftsbury

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, prior to the establishment of the state of Vermont, New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth issued town charters in the New Hampshire grants now known as the state of Vermont, and on August 20, 1761, Governor Wentworth granted to a group of proprietors a charter or grant for the town of Shaftsbury with boundaries “Beginning at the North West Corner of Bennington thence Due North Six Miles to the South West Corner of Arlington thence Due East Six Miles by Arlington Afore Said . . . ,” and

Whereas, the charter directed that one Elisha Jones was to notify the first meeting for the choice of town officers to be held on the last Tuesday of October 1761, and

Whereas, it would be many years before the convening of the first Shaftsbury town meeting occurred, but by 1765, 18 persons resided within its boundaries, and the first recorded birth in the town was Nathan Draper on January 7, 1766, and

Whereas, the first town clerk was Thomas Matteson, and the first warning for a town meeting was dated March 21, 1784, and

Whereas, on January 29, 1787, an article was offered for town meeting consideration for the funding of public education, and

Whereas, one of Shaftsbury’s most prominent early citizens was Jonas Galusha, Vermont’s fifth governor, and

Whereas, by 1840, Shaftsbury could boast of thriving mills within its borders, and sheep-raising for wool production was paramount, as the human population stood at 1,835 while the sheep count had soared to 24,436, making Shaftsbury a major wool production area, and

Whereas, later in the 19th century and into the 20th, agricultural activity shifted to dairy farming, and

Whereas, during 2011, the town of Shaftsbury celebrated its 250th charter anniversary, and the outstanding committee in charge of the festivities included Margy Becker, Faith and Mark Bollhardt, Tracy Galle, Norm Gronning, Nancy Holmes, Ben and Elaine Hulett, Charlie Jenks, Walt Klinger, Dick Lyon, Karen Mellinger, Jim Meskun, Helen Olney, Jeri Schoof, Tim Scoggins, Gina Shaler, Grace Sohn, and James Weber, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th charter anniversary of the town of Shaftsbury, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of the committee and to the Shaftsbury town clerk.

H.C.R. 288.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the town of Charlotte

Offered by: Representative Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, the town of Charlotte, located on the shore of Lake Champlain, is one of the Vermont municipalities established in accordance with a township charter that Royal New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth issued, and this specific charter was issued on June 24, 1762, and

Whereas, Benjamin Ferriss was the lead proprietor in receipt of this grant of land totaling 23,060 acres, and, as was typical in these charters, a section totaling 500 acres was reserved for Governor Wentworth and to be marked B-W in the plat plan for the town, and

Whereas, the boundaries of this proposed new township were described as “Bigining at a Marked Tree standing in the Notherly Side Line of the Township of Monkton thence runing West about Two Miles & an Half by Monkton to the North Westerly Corner thereof which is also the North Easterly Corner of Ferrissburg & from thence about Four Miles by Ferrissburg aforesaid to Lake Champlain . . . ,” and

Whereas, the charter stipulated that the first town meeting to elect officers was to take place on the last Thursday in July of 1762, however this date was

impossible to meet as the first permanent settler, Derick Webb (who had previously attempted to establish residence in Charlotte) and Elijah Woolcott did not begin their permanent residency in Charlotte until 1784, and

Whereas, in 1788, the freemen of Charlotte elected John McNeil as their first representative to the General Assembly, and

Whereas, by 1791, when the first census was taken in the newly admitted state of Vermont, Charlotte boasted a population of 635, then the largest town in the northern half of Vermont, and

Whereas, the same year as the census, the town was divided into nine school districts, indicative that the population of children in Charlotte was on the rise, and

Whereas, the close proximity of Charlotte to Lake Champlain brought the inevitable intensive involvement in the War of 1812 that grew to five military companies including two infantry, one light infantry, and two cavalry units, and

Whereas, Charlotte is a town with a rich civic heritage that in 2012 is observing the 250th anniversary of its organizational charter, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the town of Charlotte, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Charlotte town clerk.

H.C.R. 289.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the town of Ferrisburgh

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, situated in part beside Otter Creek is the town of Ferrisburgh which was legally incorporated on June 24, 1762, and

Whereas, the establishment of Ferrisburg (or Ferrisburgh) was the result of a charter New Hampshire Royal Governor Benning Wentworth granted to a group of proprietors, and

Whereas, the boundaries of this new township or plantation were described in part as “beginning at a Tree Marked on the Easterly Side of Otter Creek so

Called Standing near the Head of the first falls in Said Creek which is the North Westerly Corner of New Haven . . .”, and

Whereas, an attempt to create a settlement at a location at the first falls of the Great Otter Creek, or New Haven Falls as it was then named, was attempted in 1769 and the settlers erected a saw mill, and

Whereas, this new community was actually located at a place that would later be redesignated as part of Vergennes, but the New Haven Falls settlers’ stay was short-lived as a Colonel Reid, who claimed a rival New York patent, ejected them, and in turn Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys dispossessed the New Yorker of the land, and

Whereas, a member of the Ferris (or Feriss) family and Charles Tupper separately attempted to settle in the town shortly before the Revolutionary War, but abandoned their sites on the commencement of hostilities, and

Whereas, Tupper’s brother, Zuriel, established the first permanent settlement in the 1780s, and his home would later serve as a church and a tavern, and

Whereas, because of a fire in 1785, early town records were destroyed and whether the first town meeting was held in 1785 or 1786 will remain a matter of historical uncertainty, and

Whereas, another early permanent settler, Nathan Walker, hosted the first religious service before Zuriel Tupper’s home served this role, at which a Baptist minister, the Rev. Ephraim Sawyer, led the congregants in worship, and

Whereas, the settlers constructed their first schoolhouse of logs and sited it near Booth Creek, and

Whereas, Ferrisburgh has significantly contributed to the history of Addison County in many ways and today is a thriving community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the town of Ferrisburgh, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Ferrisburgh town clerk.

H.C.R. 290.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the chartering of the town of Monkton

Offered by: Representatives Sharpe of Bristol and Fisher of Lincoln

Whereas, on June 24, 1762, New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth proclaimed, in the form of a charter issued to Abraham Dow and 63 associates, the establishment of a new plantation (town) measuring “Twenty four Thousand Acres,” and

Whereas, the boundaries of this new plantation or town to be called Monkton were described as “Beginning at a Tree Marked standing in the Nother Esterly Angle of the Township of Ferrissbourg,” although twice, on March 4, 1797 and again on January 22, 1909 in Act 210, the original boundaries of the town were reconfigured as the General Assembly annexed sections of Monkton to neighboring Starksboro, and

Whereas, Monkton town government was formally organized on March 28, 1786 at the home of Richard Barnum, at which meeting Samuel Barnum was elected town clerk, Horace Hervey treasurer, and Ebenezer Barnum the town’s representative to serve in the General Assembly, and

Whereas, on July 24, 1794, the Baptist Church was the first religious edifice completed in Monkton, and

Whereas, the first Monkton town hall was constructed at an unknown date in the area of the town known as the Boro in a building later used as the Methodist Church, and

Whereas, the children of Monkton first studied in two school districts and the number rose briefly to as many as ten, and

Whereas, geologically, yellow ochre, kaolin (white clay), iron ore, and marble deposits were discovered that became financially beneficial, and there are rock formations within the town’s borders geologically unique to Vermont, and

Whereas, one of Monkton’s most prominent citizens was Stephen Haight, who served as Vermont receiver of state monies or treasurer on the governor’s council and was later appointed as sergeant at arms of the United States Senate, and

Whereas, the citizens of Monkton have served our nation with great courage in wartime and helped Vermont prosper in peacetime, and

Whereas, in 2012, the town of Monkton retains its historically rural and agricultural ambience and charm, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 250th anniversary of the town of Monkton, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Monkton town clerk.

H.C.R. 291.

House concurrent resolution honoring Addison town clerk Jane Grace for her exemplary 40 years of public service

Offered by: Representatives Clark of Vergennes and Lanpher of Vergennes

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, in a town with no town manager or administrator, a town clerk is the person directly responsible for the daily hands-on supervision of local government, and

Whereas, for 40 years, Addison town clerk Jane Grace has epitomized the ideal town clerk, performing her duties conscientiously, efficiently, and in a timely manner, and

Whereas, her parallel work as Addison town treasurer has been highly regarded, and

Whereas, her superb workplace skills have also been applied at Middlebury College and B.F. Goodrich, and

Whereas, in a different municipal role, since 1977 Jane Grace has served as an Addison fire department dispatcher, and

Whereas, the Addison selectboard chair, Jeff Kauffman, has stated “she is the town” of Addison, and

Whereas, the respect and esteem with which Jane Grace is held in her community easily explains why the voters of Addison have repeatedly reelected her to the office of town clerk, knowing that she undeniably has been the best person to whom to entrust the supervision of the town’s business, and

Whereas, this perfect electoral record over four decades has earned Jane Grace the distinction of serving as an Addison County town clerk for longer than any of her current colleagues, and

Whereas, each day Jane Grace comes into the office, there is always something different to do and boredom is never a problem, and

Whereas, although a new town clerk can learn the job’s duties and manage the office, replacing Jane Grace will be attempting to replace a person who is essentially irreplaceable, and

Whereas, despite her true devotion to the office and the deep affection with which she is held in the town of Addison, Jane Grace has decided that at the 2012 Addison town meeting, she will not stand for reelection, and

Whereas, she is eagerly anticipating spending quality family time with her husband Phillip, her sons Michael and Christopher, her daughters-in-law Margo and Natalie, and her granddaughters Julie and Dagny, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Addison town clerk Jane Grace for her exemplary 40 years of public service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jane Grace in Addison.

S.C.R. 38.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring the six fire chiefs past and present who have given over 280 years of combined service to the Marshfield volunteer fire department

Whereas, Robert (Bob) Gannett's presence graced the General Assembly during his four terms in the House of Representatives as the member from Brattleboro (1953–1960) and later for ten terms as the senator from Windham County (1973–1992), and

Whereas, when the newly elected Representative Bob Gannett arrived in Montpelier in January 1953, his legal expertise as a respected attorney was acknowledged with his assignment to the Committee on Judiciary, and

Whereas, in 1955, Representative Bob Gannett was appointed to the Committee on Appropriations, and his rapid mastery of budgetary minutiae was a prelude to his service as committee chair during the 1957 and 1959 biennia, and

Whereas, a keen observer of the parliamentary process, in 1957 he served as Speaker Pro Tempore while presiding over the House's deliberations, and

Whereas, near the close of the 1960 Adjourned Session, Representative Bob Gannett's final year in the House of Representatives, his colleagues voted him President of the House of 1959, an organization the members formed for the purpose of holding reunions, and

Whereas, in 1972, the voters of Windham County elected Robert Gannett as their new senator, and he became one of the Senate's most esteemed members, and

Whereas, in his initial senatorial biennium, Senator Bob Gannett sat on the Finance, General and Military, and Highway Traffic committees, and

Whereas, in 1975, he resumed his role as a legislative budget scrutinizer with his appointment as Vice Chair of the Committee on Appropriations, and he subsequently earned the rare distinction of chairing this all-important committee in both the House and the Senate, and

Whereas, the Committee on General and Military Affairs also benefited from his astute leadership as vice chair and chair, and while serving as Chair of the Committee on Institutions, Senator Bob Gannett was a strong advocate, as was his late wife Sarah Alden (Aldie) Derby Gannett, of state financial assistance for the establishment of a permanent corridor for the Long Trail, helping to create a legacy that will endure for generations to come, and

Whereas, during his senatorial career, his committee assignments also included Senate Government Operations, Senate Transportation, and Joint Fiscal, and his wise parliamentary counsel proved invaluable on both the committees on Senate Rules and Joint Rules, and

Whereas, on the morning of Sunday, April 26, 1992, Senator Bob Gannett concluded his long and illustrious legislative service when he offered the final motion of the 1992 Adjourned Session directing that the President of the Senate appoint a committee to inform the Governor that the Senate was ready to adjourn sine die, and

Whereas, his wealth of common sense, wise judgment, and concern for the well-being of Vermonters was always drawn upon in his decision-making process, and his service in the General Assembly, as an attorney, and in the community at large epitomized the work of a genuine statesman, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors former Representative and Senator Robert T. Gannett on his 95th birthday and extends to him best wishes on this special occasion, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Marshfield Fire Department.