

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ADDENDUM

TO THE

HOUSE CALENDAR

**Text of House Concurrent
Resolutions**

of

April 2, 2026

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rules 16a -16d

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration in the member's chamber prior to adjournment of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Senate Secretary's Office or the House Clerk's Office, as applicable.

H.C.R. 239

Offered by All Members of the House

House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the 18th annual Jr Iron Chef VT culinary extravaganza

Whereas, Jr Iron Chef VT, convened most recently on March 14, 2026, at the Champlain Valley Exposition, provides an ideal opportunity to promote the agricultural, economic, educational, and nutritional benefits of Vermont's Farm to School initiative, while the aspiring chefs learn the importance of collaboration and explore a potential career option, and

Whereas, since 2008, over 5,000 secondary school students cooking on more than 1,000 teams have competed, and, in 2026, 55 teams consisting of 253 students and representing 37 schools or organizations participated, and

Whereas, each team, competing in either a middle school or high school cohort, vied for three honors: Lively Local, recognizing the team that best highlighted Vermont foods; Mise en Place, showcasing the team that exhibited exemplary teamwork, order, and professionalism; and Crowd Pleaser, bestowing credit on the team that best incorporated color, texture, and taste, and the award recipients, including their school name, team name, and culinary creations, in 2026 were as follows:

Lively Local: Mary Hogan School, Gourmet Hawks, Vermont country risotto with maple cream and black currant compote; First Branch Middle School, Deviled Chefs, curry-flavored fettucine; and Mt. Mansfield Union High School, MMU Wild Pestonians, pesto fettuccine with portobello mushrooms, caramelized onions, and lemon ricotta;

Mise en Place: Mt. Abraham Unified School District Expanded Learning Program, Bald Eagles, three-cheese ravioli with oven-roasted tomato sauce; Derby Elementary School, Sweet Heats, BLT tamales with pickle pesto and sweet heat sauce; and Lake Region Union High School, Roger's Raccoons, "Raccoons Gone Curry-ous"; and

Crowd Pleaser: Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School, ADL PMO casserole with hot honey; Winooski Middle School, Wild Chives, "Cafeteria

Gone Wild Corn Dogs”; and Champlain Valley Union High School, the Llinis, sweet potato tortellini with miso butter sauce, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winning teams at the 18th annual Jr Iron Chef VT culinary extravaganza, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each winning team and to Vermont Afterschool.

H.C.R. 240

Offered by Representatives Bartholomew of Hartland and Burrows of West Windsor

House concurrent resolution congratulating Stephen R. Bissette on his designation as the sixth Vermont Cartoonist Laureate

Whereas, in a nationally unique collaboration between the Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction and the Vermont Arts Council, the Vermont Cartoonist Laureate program advances the recognition of comics as a distinctive and powerful artistic medium, spanning graphic novels, journalism, children’s literature, and other forms of storytelling, and

Whereas, the graphic artists previously so honored were James Kochalka, Ed Koren, Alison Bechdel, Rick Veitch, and, most recently, Tillie Walden, and

Whereas, the newly designated sixth Vermont Cartoonist Laureate is Stephen R. Bissette of Windsor, a Waterbury native and a 1973 graduate of Harwood Union High School (and a 2025 inductee into the school’s hall of fame), and, professionally, he is a proud alumnus of the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art’s first graduating class, an internationally recognized and honored cartoonist and publisher, a dedicated artists’ advocate who was a signatory of the 1988 Creator’s Bill of Rights, and a founding faculty member of the Center for Cartoon Studies, and

Whereas, in 1976, prior to enrolling at the Kubert School, Stephen R. Bissette began his comics publishing career with *Abyss*, and his reputation as a leading comic book artist and groundbreaking contributor to the medium’s horror genre were confirmed when he served as the cocreator and an artist (with Alan Moore and John Totleben) of *Saga of the Swamp Thing*, a comic series that introduced the enduring character of John Constantine, and

Whereas, his career contributions to comic book creation and publication have ranged from the dinosaur epic *Tyrant*, the adaptation of Steven Spielberg’s film *1941* as a graphic novel, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle*

projects, and as the cocreator and coeditor (again, in collaboration with John Totleben) of the influential *Taboo* anthology, and he introduced an important outlet for independent comic book publishing and a home for boundary-pushing creators, and

Whereas, Stephen R. Bissette, whose graphic artistry has extended to many unique applications, is the winner of top professional honors, including multiple Jack Kirby Comics Industry Awards, the Inkpot Award, and the Eisner Award, all outstanding credentials for this career recognition, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Stephen R. Bissette on his designation as the sixth Vermont Cartoonist Laureate, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Stephen R. Bissette, the Center for Cartoon Studies, and the Vermont Arts Council.

H.C.R. 241

Offered by Representatives Austin of Colchester, Bishop of Colchester, Critchlow of Colchester, and Pezzo of Colchester

Offered by Senators Baruth, Brennan, Gulick, and Vyhovsky

House concurrent resolution congratulating University of Vermont Distinguished Professor and Vermont Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux on winning the Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science

Whereas, one of the truly remarkable faculty members of the University of Vermont (UVM) is Distinguished Professor of Geography and Geosciences and Vermont State Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, and

Whereas, a graduate of the University of Toronto, she holds graduate degrees from McGill University in Montreal, including a doctorate in climatology and geographic information systems, and her research interests encompass “hydroclimatic natural hazards and climate literacy, climate services, [and] geospatial climate and land-surface processes,” and

Whereas, Dr. Dupigny-Giroux is a leading expert on “floods, droughts and severe weather and the ways in which these affect the landscape and peoples of Vermont [and the northeastern United States],” and

Whereas, her teaching portfolio examines climatology, physical geography, and remote sensing, and beyond the UVM campus, she has worked extensively

with K–12 teachers and students, incorporating satellite usage into pre-college climatology curriculums, and

Whereas, she is a fellow of the American Meteorological Society, currently serves on three National Academy of Sciences panels, and is a past president of the American Association of State Climatologists; as a researcher and applied climatologist, Professor Dupigny-Giroux has contributed to all five national climate assessments, including serving as the lead author for the northeast chapter of the rendition, and has held leadership positions on Vermont and federal climate-associated initiatives, and

Whereas, recently, the American Association for the Advancement of Science bestowed on her one of its premiere tributes, the Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science, recognizing the “demonstrate[d] excellence ... [of her] contribution to public engagement with science,” and her extraordinary career as an admired scholar and public official uniquely qualified her for this distinct honor, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates University of Vermont Distinguished Professor and Vermont Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux on winning the Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to UVM Professor and Vermont State Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux.

H.C.R. 242

Offered by Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Cooper of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Greer of Bennington, and Nigro of Bennington

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Anthony Union High School Patriots on winning the Division I boys’ Nordic skiing championship

Whereas, Nordic skiing competition tests skiers’ agility and speed as they race across the snow-covered course, and, annually, the best high school Nordic skiers engage in individual and team competition at the State championship meet, and

Whereas, in 2026, the first day's freestyle races were held at the Rikert Outdoor Center in Ripton and the competition concluded with the classic races at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, and

Whereas, in a clean sweep of their Division I competitors, the Patriots boys won all four races: the classic, in which three Mount Anthony skiers finished among the top eight; the classic relay; the freestyle; and the freestyle relay, and

Whereas, this unusual accomplishment enabled the Patriots to limit their point tally to 87 (in Nordic skiing, the better the performance, the lower the score) and easily top second-place Champlain Valley Union High School, which scored 150 points, and

Whereas, this talented Patriots Nordic skiing contingent consisted of Carson Andrick, Eli McEnaney, Henry Morrison, Liam Mulligan, Hunter Favreau, Abek Woods, Max Cutsumpas, Orion Breese, Colin Gulley, Quentin Phillips, and Edgar Ostler, and

Whereas, this grand skiing adventure would not have been possible without the expert guidance of Head Coach Rob Short and Assistant Coach Gabe Niles, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2026 Mount Anthony Union High School Patriots on winning the Division I boys' Nordic skiing championship, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mount Anthony Union High School.

H.C.R. 243

Offered by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Casey of Hubbardton, Harvey of Castleton, and McCoy of Poultney

Offered by Senators Collamore, Hardy, Heffernan, Weeks, and Williams

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters bowling team on winning a second consecutive State championship

Whereas, bowling requires strategizing to aim the large ball down the lane for the most comprehensive ten-pin impact, and

Whereas, in 2025, the Slaters proved their bowling bona fides, winning the State championship, and, in 2026, the Fair Haven bowlers were eager to resume tallying strikes or at least spares in every frame, if possible, and

Whereas, in this season’s playoff competition, the number two-seeded Slaters defeated number seven White River Valley and number three St. Johnsbury Academy to secure a championship berth against the top-seeded Randolph Galloping Ghosts, and

Whereas, for the second consecutive year, the Slaters emerged triumphant on championship day with a 60–47 roll-off victory, and cheering supporters escorted the team from Route 4 back to Fair Haven Union High School, and

Whereas, the great 2026 Slater bowlers were Yuki Adams-Silva, Amber Lynn Haley, Reagan Stamp, Eli Donaldson, George Stamp, In Shik Adams-Silva, Michael Towle, Dylan Bania, Aiden Goyette, Nathan Bessette, Madison Stamp, Wyatt Delance, and Kaemon Adams-Silva, and

Whereas, Head Coach Joe Donaldson and Assistant Coach Ron Carrara were outstanding team mentors, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Fair Haven Union High School Slaters bowling team on winning a second consecutive State championship, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Fair Haven Union High School.

H.C.R. 244

Offered by Representatives LaMont of Morristown, Bartley of Fairfax, Berbeco of Winooski, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burrows of West Windsor, Carris Duncan of Whitingham, Chapin of East Montpelier, Cina of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Dodge of Essex, Galfetti of Barre Town, Headrick of Burlington, Kleppner of Burlington, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Rachelson of Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Tomlinson of Winooski, and Yacovone of Morristown

House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of April 11–17, 2026, as Black Maternal Health Week in Vermont

Whereas, according to a research compendium that KFF, an independent health research organization, issued in December 2025, there are stark racial disparities in the nation’s maternal and infant care health outcomes that are highly unfavorable for Black Americans, and

Whereas, for example, the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion’s Division of Reproductive Health reported that, in 2023, the pregnancy-related mortality rate per 100,000 births for Black

American women was 49.4, while for white American women it stood at a far-lower 14.9, and

Whereas, also in 2023, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics recorded 10.9 Black American infant deaths per 1,000 live births, and the comparable figure for White American infants was 4.5, and

Whereas, the Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA) is “an [a]lliance of perinatal, maternal, and reproductive health Black and women-led organizations and multidisciplinary professionals ... [that seeks] to build consensus and articulate priorities ... from those doing work within ... [the] communities [of Black American women],” and

Whereas, among the organization’s goals are to “cultivate innovative research methods ... to improve Black maternal health ... introduce and enhance holistic and comprehensive approaches to Black mamas’ care ... [and] redirect and reframe the conversation on Black maternal health and amplify the voices of Black mamas,” and

Whereas, annually, BMMA designates Black Maternal Health Week, which, in 2026, is from April 11 to 17, and this year the week’s mission is “to center the voices, leadership, and lived experiences of Black mothers while advancing community-led systems change rooted in healing, trust, and collaboration,” and

Whereas, coinciding with this mission is the theme, “Rooted in Justice & Joy: 10 Years of Building the Black Maternal Health Movement,” both honoring “a decade of groundbreaking work that has transformed the landscape of Black Maternal Health in the U.S,” and “acknowledging the persistent challenges that demand continued innovation and action,” *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the week of April 11–17, 2026, as Black Maternal Health Week in Vermont, *and be it further*

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

H.C.R. 245

Offered by Representatives Duke of Burlington, Austin of Colchester, Bishop of Colchester, Bluemle of Burlington, Brown of Richmond, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Cooper of Pownal, Dodge of Essex, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Goslant of Northfield, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Houghton of

Essex Junction, James of Manchester, Keyser of Rutland City, Krasnow of South Burlington, Luneau of St. Albans City, Marcotte of Coventry, McCann of Montpelier, Nugent of South Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pezzo of Colchester, Priestley of Bradford, Rachelson of Burlington, Sibia of Dover, Sweeney of Shelburne, Torre of Moretown, White of Bethel, and Wood of Waterbury

Offered by Senators Collamore, Gulick, Hardy, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, and Weeks

House concurrent resolution celebrating the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizing April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House

Whereas, Vermont is a world-class destination for outdoor recreation, dining, lodging, art, and history that attracts visitors and new residents, incentivizes Vermonters to stay, and creates business opportunities, and

Whereas, Vermont's visitor economy has a \$4.2 billion economic impact and employs more than 10 percent of Vermont's workforce, and

Whereas, in 2024, 16 million people visited Vermont, contributing an estimated \$293.5 million dollars in State and local taxes, and

Whereas, tourism and hospitality are two of the largest industries in Vermont, creating 31,780 jobs, and

Whereas, tourism and hospitality are vital to the sustainability of rural and urban communities alike, across all 14 counties, and

Whereas, meaningful representation and inclusion are essential to ensure Vermont is welcoming to individuals from all backgrounds so that they can experience the joy of visiting the State, and

Whereas, industry leaders who prioritize community values in their work and promote destination stewardship benefit Vermonters and the State's economy, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizes April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Chamber of Commerce and Ski Vermont.

H.C.R. 246

Offered by Representative McGill of Bridport

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2026, as Vermont Children's Alliance Day at the State House

Whereas, in Vermont, there are 13 Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) focusing on the challenges and solutions to the continuing prevalence of child abuse in our State, and

Whereas, these important organizations provide critical support and representational services to children whose needs can be acute and who rely on the centers to assist in transforming their lives, which may be harsh, into a potentially more promising future, and

Whereas, a CAC provides "forensic interviews, a safe meeting space, victim advocacy, and coordinated care to children that report sexual and physical abuse," and the 13 CACs operate collectively as the Vermont Children's Alliance (VCA), and

Whereas, the vision of the VCA is "to empower Vermont's CACs to provide equal and reliable access to support, treatment, justice, and healing for every child," and

Whereas, more specifically, the mission of the VCA is to "foster the growth of the CAC movement by providing statewide support and resources, promoting awareness of child abuse and its impact on our communities," and

Whereas, today, April 10, 2026, representatives of the VCA and its member CACs are visiting the State House to educate legislators on the importance of addressing the continuing problems associated with the abuse of our youngest Vermonters, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates April 10, 2026, as Vermont Children's Alliance Day at the State House, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Children's Alliance.