

No. R-351. House concurrent resolution in memory of Shoreham firefighter Peter James Coe.

(H.C.R.251)

Offered by: Representative Stevens of Shoreham

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Giard

Whereas, Peter Coe had an infectious love of life, his family, and his adopted hometown of Shoreham and exuded a fun-filled sense of humor, and

Whereas, he was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, and, after a post-high school sojourn to California, he returned east to attend college, and

Whereas, Peter Coe married his wife, Valerie, in 1990, and they were the proud parents of a daughter, Genevieve, and a son, Nicholas, and

Whereas, After 36 years of living in the Washington, D.C. area and despite the protestations of their many local friends, Peter and Valerie moved to Vermont, seeking a more family-oriented and less hectic lifestyle, and they never regretted the decision, and

Whereas, he became a respected public housing manager with an amazing work ethic who was especially pleased that he was able to assist tenants to help themselves improve their quality of life, and

Whereas, Peter Coe was an avid sportsman who loved to play golf, to hunt, and to fish, and

Whereas, he found his service as a volunteer Shoreham firefighter personally rewarding and emotionally satisfying, and became a valued member of Shoreham's public safety protection team, and

Whereas, in the early evening of December 27, 2009, Peter Coe was driving on Richville Dam Road in Shoreham when he spotted a motorist whose vehicle had slid into a ditch on the icy and foggy night, and

Whereas, in the true role of a volunteer firefighter, who is always on call, Peter Coe pulled to the side of the road in order to assist the stranded motorist, and

Whereas, while he was assisting the motorist, a truck struck and killed him, bringing to a tragic, and far-too-premature end, the life of this vivacious 43-year old husband, father, and friend to many in the town of Shoreham, and

Whereas, the town of Shoreham paid a sad farewell to Peter Coe as a large contingent of firefighters and paramedics marched from the Shoreham firehouse to the local Congregational church where the well-attended memorial service concluded with the traditional ringing of a bell in the firefighter's honor, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family and friends of Shoreham volunteer firefighter Peter James Coe, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Valerie, Genevieve, and Nicholas Coe in Shoreham and to the Shoreham fire department.