

NO. R-44. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 200-YEAR HISTORY OF THE MUZZY-ALLEN-MONROE FAMILY IN THE TOWN OF JAMAICA AND ITS 160-YEAR PROPRIETORSHIP OF THE J.A. MUZZY COMPANY.

(H.C.R.21)

Offered by: Representative Hube of Londonderry

Offered by: Senators Shumlin and White

Whereas, the Muzzy-Allen-Monroe family's civic and commercial leadership in the town of Jamaica began in 1789 when Benjamin Muzzy settled in this Windham County municipality, and

Whereas, he represented Jamaica in the House of Representatives for the 1797 session and later for four one-year terms from 1810 through 1813, and

Whereas, in the decades that followed, the descendants of Benjamin Muzzy continued to reside in Jamaica, and in 1848, his grandson, Abijah Muzzy, purchased a local retail establishment that specialized in the sale of tools and related supplies, and

Whereas, although formally named the J.A. Muzzy Company, after Abijah Muzzy's son, James, who assumed control of the store later in the 19th century, it was known to everyone in Jamaica as Muzzy's, and

Whereas, James Muzzy followed in the footsteps of his great-grandfather, Benjamin, and during 1897-1898, he represented Jamaica in the House of Representatives, and

Whereas, upon retiring from his role at Muzzy's, James Muzzy passed ownership of the store to his son-in-law, Ernest O. Allen, who operated this

venerable mercantile establishment into the 1970s when he transferred its ownership to his grandson, Allen Monroe, and

Whereas, this represents a remarkable 160-year longevity of the Muzzy-Allen-Monroe family owning Muzzy's, and

Whereas, family members were among the local bank's incorporators, they established an endowment to help families in the area during times of need, and they donated the land on which the town's offices and elementary school are located, and

Whereas, Allen Monroe's father served as headmaster at Leland & Gray High School and was a renowned artist, and

Whereas, the closure of Muzzy's store in 2008 marked a true milestone in the history of the town of Jamaica and that of the Muzzy-Allen-Monroe family with which it has been so closely associated, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the 200-year history of the Muzzy-Allen-Monroe family in the town of Jamaica and its 160-year proprietorship of the J.A. Muzzy Company, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Allen Monroe in Jamaica.