

**No. R-56. House concurrent resolution honoring Nathaniel A. Boone of Winhall for his pioneering national service.**

(H.C.R.37)

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Keefe of Manchester, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Sabilia of Dover, and Sullivan of Dorset

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, since July 11, 1798, African Americans were barred from enlistment in the U.S. Marine Corps, and

Whereas, on June 25, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt issued an executive order barring racial discrimination in military enlistment, and

Whereas, in 1942, the first modern era African American Marines trained in a segregated unit at Montford Point Camp at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, but an integrated U.S. Marine Corps required President Truman to issue a further executive order on July 26, 1948, and

Whereas, one of these pioneering African American U.S. Marines was Nathaniel Boone of Englewood, New Jersey, who enlisted in 1946 and served as a radar technician, and

Whereas, after his honorable military discharge, Nathaniel Boone used funds made available under the GI Bill of Rights to attend Bates College, where he met his wife, Harriet Howel, and upon graduating from Bates, he earned a law degree at Boston University, and

Whereas, for 30 years, Nathaniel Boone practiced law in New Jersey, and

Whereas, in 1957, Nathaniel and Harriet Boone honeymooned in Manchester and, enchanted with this Vermont resort community, they returned regularly, purchasing a home in nearby Winhall in 1972 before becoming permanent residents in 1989, and

Whereas, in retirement, Nathaniel Boone has assumed active community roles, including volunteering with the Manchester Music Festival; serving as a tour guide and board chair at Hildene, the home of President Abraham Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln; and as an active member, along with his wife, at the local First Congregational Church, and

Whereas, in 2012, the U.S. Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the nation's two highest civilian honors, to Nathaniel Boone and each of the other surviving Montford Point U.S. Marines, and

Whereas, Nathaniel Boone attributes the opportunities resulting from his Marine Corps service as paving the path to his personal success and that of his daughter, Daryl, a Harvard University librarian; his son, Peter, a Connecticut orthopedic surgeon; and each of his three grandchildren, and

Whereas, the 2012 Winhall Town Report was dedicated to Nathaniel Aaron Boone, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Nathaniel A. Boone of Winhall for his pioneering national service, and be it further

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