

No. R-67. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement on the observance of St. Patrick's Day 2023.

(H.C.R.48)

Offered by: Representative Casey of Montpelier

Whereas, the Troubles, as the political and sectarian violence that began in 1969 in Northern Ireland is known, resulted in profound societal discord and far too many deaths on all sides, and

Whereas, on April 10, 1998, not coincidentally Good Friday, there were two sets of agreements: one between most of the political parties in Northern Ireland and the government of the United Kingdom, and another between the governments of the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic, and

Whereas, collectively known as the Good Friday Agreement, this historic accord represented a landmark breakthrough that provided Ireland with a political framework to address its future, and both American political parties were supportive, and

Whereas, the Good Friday Agreement acknowledges the right of differing political traditions to pursue their goal of either remaining part of the United Kingdom or part of Irish Unity and demonstrates a democratic and peaceful means of resolving differences of a great magnitude, and

Whereas, although important issues remain unresolved in Northern Ireland, this historic agreement remains an irrevocable foundation of the Northern Ireland peace process, and

Whereas, on the 17th of March, St. Patrick's Day, it is most fitting to recognize the enduring importance of the Good Friday Agreement, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly, on the observance of St. Patrick's Day 2023, commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Chair of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus, to Republic of Ireland Senator Mark Daly, the 24th Leas-Cathaoirleach of Seanad Éireann, and to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.