

No. R-97. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Choral Union on its 50th anniversary.

(H.C.R.72)

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Beyor of Highgate, Brumsted of Shelburne, Christie of Hartford, Connor of Fairfield, Conquest of Newbury, Dakin of Colchester, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Dunn of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Fields of Bennington, Gamache of Swanton, Head of South Burlington, Hooper of Montpelier, Houghton of Essex, Joseph of North Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Lanpher of Vergennes, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Mrowicki of Putney, Murphy of Fairfax, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Parent of St. Albans Town, Pearce of Richford, Pugh of South Burlington, Rosenquist of Georgia, Savage of Swanton, Scheu of Middlebury, Stevens of Waterbury, Sullivan of Burlington, Till of Jericho, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Weed of Enosburgh, Wood of Waterbury, Yacovone of Morristown, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, the Vermont Choral Union “provide[s] audiences with exemplary performances which entertain, delight, and educate,” and

Whereas, in 1967, music professor James G. Chapman established the University of Vermont Choral Union (UVMCU), and

Whereas, Professor Chapman directed the UVMCU for 37 years to great acclaim, focusing on a repertoire drawing on the inspiration of ten centuries of classical a cappella music supplemented with contemporary choral compositions, and

Whereas, a highlight of the UVMCU's performance history was the popular carol dinners started in 1983 and held for 22 years, and

Whereas, these dinners led to the recordings *Music for a Carol Dinner* and *Welcome Yule*, and

Whereas, among the ensemble's other recordings are four Vermont Harmony recordings, performances of the music of Vermont composers who worked in the State during 1790–1810, including the musical compositions of Justin Morgan, and

Whereas, upon Professor Chapman's retirement in 2004, devoted members of the ensemble assumed responsibility for the group's management and performances, renaming it the Vermont Choral Union (VCU), and

Whereas, Gary Moreau served as the VCU's music director through 2010, Carol Reichard conducted a spring 2011 concert, and Jeff Rehbach, long associated with the musical leadership of the Middlebury College Community Chorus and who has led the annual Middlebury Messiah Sing for over 30 years, assumed the VCU's podium later that year, and

Whereas, in 2017, the VCU consists of 30–36 talented and audition-selected choristers, and

Whereas, VCU performs December concerts in St. Albans and in Burlington, in the spring at St. Michael's College and a variety of locations across the State, and

Whereas, in commemoration of its 50th anniversary, the VCU is performing at Farmers' Night on March 29, 2017, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Choral Union on its 50th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Choral Union and to Jeff Rehbach.