

**No. R-133. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Rutland Loyalty Day Parade.**

(H.C.R.95)

Offered by: Representative Russell of Rutland City

Whereas on May 1, 1886, an initially peaceful labor demonstration in Chicago, known as the Haymarket Massacre, culminated in extensive violence and the deaths of police officers and civilians, and

Whereas, May Day became a commemorative observance of the Haymarket Massacre that was associated with values contrary to fundamental American principles, and

Whereas, in 1921, a new May 1 celebration, originally known as Americanization Day, was established as a tribute to the social and economic contributions of American workers and to display loyalty to the United States, and

Whereas, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) lobbied for ten years to secure federal recognition of this special civic celebration, which in 1958, with President Eisenhower's signature, became a reality, and

Whereas, beginning in 1963, the Rutland VFW Chapter inaugurated a Loyalty Day Parade that has evolved from a small event into a major parade, which in some years is the state's largest, and that features potentially over 100 marching units, including veterans, fraternal organizations, fire departments, and school bands, as well as civic leaders, and

Whereas, on Sunday, May 5, 2013, this festive and patriotic celebration will focus on the theme of dedication to all men and women serving in the military, and

Whereas, this 50th anniversary Rutland Loyalty Day Parade will be an especially memorable demonstration of pride in our nation, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Rutland Loyalty Day Parade, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Rutland Chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.