

**No. R-215. House concurrent resolution honoring Newport City Council Chair John Wilson for his national and municipal public service.**

(H.C.R.161)

Offered by: Representatives Page of Newport City, Hango of Berkshire, Higley of Lowell, Labor of Morgan, Marcotte of Coventry, and Smith of Derby

Offered by: Senators Ingalls and Starr

Whereas, John Wilson was born and raised in Rock Island, Quebec, and he and his wife, Janis Wilson, emigrated to Vermont as young adults, and

Whereas, in 1968, the U.S. Army drafted John Wilson, and although he could have surrendered his green card and returned to Canada, his patriotic desire to become an American citizen led him to serve his new country, and

Whereas, after completion of basic training, John Wilson was deployed to Vietnam, where he encountered combat, and

Whereas, in 1983, during his military service, John Wilson was proud to take the oath as a U.S. citizen, and

Whereas, John Wilson's Vietnam service began a 28-year U.S. Army career that took him and his family around the world, and, in 1998, he was honorably discharged from military service as an operations sergeant major, and

Whereas, in 2001, John Wilson won a seat on the Newport City Council, on which he served until 2018 and then again from 2020 until 2024, and

Whereas, John Wilson's municipal legislative colleagues respected his life experience, and, for 15 years, he chaired the Newport City Council, and

Whereas, in 2018, the *Northland Journal* recognized John and Janis Wilson, honoring their role in advising U.S. military veterans, and

Whereas, after over two decades of leadership and conscientious work as a member of the Newport City Council, John Wilson has decided not to stand for reelection in 2024, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Newport City Council Chair John Wilson for his national and municipal public service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John Wilson and to the Newport City Clerk.