

**No. R-213. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative Willis Lansing Curtis.**

(H.C.R.162)

Offered by: Representative Clarkson of Woodstock

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, Willis (Will) Curtis of Woodstock celebrated the events, people, and natural history of Vermont through his delightfully written and beautifully illustrated books and informative radio broadcasts, and

Whereas, born in Marlboro, Massachusetts in September 1917, his ties to Vermont date to the late 1930s when he attended the Vermont Academy in Saxtons River, and

Whereas, Will Curtis and his wife, Jane, who was a close partner and collaborator in all his life's endeavors, operated a dairy farm in Hartland, and

Whereas, his active participation in agricultural associations expanded his civic horizons, and he served as the member from Hartland in the House of Representatives during the 1963 Biennium, and

Whereas, Will and Jane Curtis's literary passions served them well during their proprietorship in the 1960s of the Yankee Bookstore in Woodstock, and

Whereas, their love of books, and special interest in Vermont's cultural heritage, motivated them to celebrate our state as coauthors of a number of volumes, including ones on historic Woodstock, George Perkins Marsh, Calvin Coolidge, and military sites in the Champlain Valley, and looking beyond the

state's borders, they were among the authors of a monograph on the artists of Monhegan Island, Maine, and

Whereas, Will Curtis's volunteer work with the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences served as the springboard for his best known role as the host of "The Nature of Things" radio series, aired for many years on Vermont Public Radio and distributed nationwide for listeners to enjoy and to learn about our natural environment, and his writings about Jane Curtis's and his journeys to exotic locations and his scripts were compiled into two anthologies, and

Whereas, Will Curtis was an active and avid member of the Ottaquechee Section of the Green Mountain Club who, with his wife, led outdoor excursions ranging from historic walks to mountain ascents, and they were coauthors of the Green Mountain Club's 75th anniversary volume, *Green Mountain Adventure: Vermont's Long Trail*, and

Whereas, Will Curtis's long and well-lived life has now concluded at the age of 93, and his survivors include his wife, Jane, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of former Representative Willis Lansing Curtis, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jane Curtis in Woodstock.