

No. R-214. House concurrent resolution honoring Patricia Rocheleau Harper for her outstanding work on the restoration of the House committee rooms.

(H.C.R.163)

Offered by: Committee on Corrections and Institutions

Whereas, the committee rooms assigned to the House of Representatives in past years were frequently overcrowded, lacked sufficient storage space for members, had less than ideal air circulation, and were not especially attractive, and

Whereas, in the 2010 through 2012 capital construction bills, the General Assembly appropriated funds for the renovation of all the House committee rooms, and

Whereas, the State House curator decided to refurbish the committee rooms in a style reflecting the 1920s period when the rooms were created, and

Whereas, Tricia Harper grew up in the White River Junction area and in 1985 graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in architecture, and

Whereas, after graduation, she moved back to Vermont and was employed at several private architectural firms, and

Whereas, in 1994, the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) hired Tricia Harper as a project manager, the first woman offered this important field supervisory position, and

Whereas, one of her immediate assignments was to supervise BGS projects in the State House, a portfolio she has continued to retain, and

Whereas, for the work on the House committee rooms, Tricia Harper assumed a direct role in all aspects of their design, and

Whereas, the finished rooms are probably far more handsome than they were originally, featuring fine wood finishes, new cushioned seating for the public, storage drawers for members, new working space for committee and legal staff, and large video screens in several committee rooms, and

Whereas, the removal of long-hidden French doors between many of the rooms enabled Tricia Harper to expand square footage, providing much-needed extra space, and

Whereas, the entire House committee room renovation project was a great success due to Tricia Harper's innovative leadership, patience, and appreciation for the need to balance aesthetic, historical, and practical considerations, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Patricia Harper for her outstanding work on the restoration of the House committee rooms, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Patricia Harper.