

No. R-253. House concurrent resolution honoring the golden anniversary of Ted's Pizza Shop in Rutland City.

(H.C.R.173)

Offered by: Representatives Howard of Rutland City, Andrews of Rutland City, Courcelle of Rutland City and Fagan of Rutland City

Whereas, the history of this Rutland City eatery began in the late 1950s when Raymond "Ted" Vignoe and his mother decided to sell pizza from their front porch during what was then known as the Italian Feast, and

Whereas, their success led to the November 1958 opening of Ted's Pizza Shop on State Street near Noyes Avenue as the community's first stand-alone Italian pizzeria and grinder shop, and

Whereas, for the next 16½ years, Ted's Pizza Shop, at its original location and later at 91 State Street, was under the attentive proprietorship of Ted Vignoe, who had the great assistance of his wife, Helen, and

Whereas, in May 1975, Ted Vignoe sold his thriving pizzeria to the Romeo family, including his long-time employee Tony Romeo and Tony's mother and sister, and

Whereas, Tony Romeo is proud of Ted's Pizza's half-century of success, has maintained scrapbooks relating the business's history, and has always kept the business's original name, and

Whereas, pride in past accomplishments has hardly kept Tony Romeo from introducing new and delectable entrees to his menu, including spaghetti and ziti, and the pizza is offered with thin, medium, or thick crust, and a variety of grinders are served cold or toasted, and

Whereas, Ted's Pizza Shop has hosted live radio broadcasts of the WSYB Christmas Fund appeal, most recently in December 2008, and

Whereas, the restaurant's large and faithful customer base includes many dignitaries including perhaps most notably West Rutland native and Grammy Award-winning country singer Dan Tyminski, who has been know to praise Ted's Pizza from the stage during a concert, and

Whereas, individuals call from across the nation to order gift certificates to send to local family and friends, and

Whereas, in November 2008, Ted's Pizza Shop marked a half-century of selling pizza and other favorites to Rutlanders, and this is a cause for great celebration, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Ted's Pizza Shop and Tony Romeo and his family on marking the restaurant's golden anniversary and extends best wishes for many years of continued success, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tony Romeo at Ted's Pizza Shop in Rutland.