

**No. R-288. House concurrent resolution in memory of Ted Bridges.**

(H.C.R.205)

Offered by: Representative Smith of Mendon

Whereas, states, unlike nations, do not appoint ambassadors; however, in 1997, Governor Howard Dean named Ted Bridges an Ambassador of Vermont in recognition of his enthusiastic promotion of the state's tourism industry, both in the United States and internationally, and

Whereas, Ted Bridges was a business leader of the utmost integrity, and

Whereas, Ted Bridges spent over four decades working at the former Cortina Inn in Mendon where he started as a part-time employee in 1966, and

Whereas, as his role at the Cortina Inn transformed into a full-time position, Ted Bridges' responsibilities increased as he rose through the inn's organizational hierarchy, becoming successively front desk manager, general manager, and ultimately chief executive in his role as innkeeper, and

Whereas, while always encouraging visitors to stay at the Cortina Inn, Ted Bridges was just as quick to promote Vermont tourism more broadly, and

Whereas, while employed at the Holiday Inn - Rutland-Killington, starting in 2007, Ted Bridges continued throughout the United States and Europe to superbly represent the state of Vermont and its many businesses and attractions, and

Whereas, wherever he traveled, including to international travel conferences, he extolled the exciting vacation opportunities waiting for visitors in the Green Mountain State, and

Whereas, in 2001, the Vermont Chamber of Commerce honored this one-man tourism promotion board, wonderful human being, and extremely popular Vermonter as the organization's Travel Person of the Year, and

Whereas, he had served as vice president of the Killington Chamber of Commerce, and

Whereas, Ted Bridges sat on the board of directors of professionally related organizations, including the Vermont Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Vermont Lodging and Restaurant Association, and

Whereas, the arts were an important part of his life, and Ted Bridges served as a director of the Killington Music Festival and was a regional trustee of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, and

Whereas, Ted Bridges' wife, Sally, children, Katy, Terry, and Patrick, and grandchildren, Madelyn and Mason, along with his many friends in the Vermont tourism industry, were saddened to learn of his recent death, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family and many friends of Ted Bridges, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Sally Bridges and to the town of Killington.