

No. R-300. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival on its 40th anniversary.

(H.C.R.216)

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Deen of Westminster, Marek of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney and Partridge of Windham

Whereas, each summer since 1969, the glorious sounds of chamber music have been heard in Putney under the auspices of the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival, and

Whereas, this musical collaboration of teaching, learning, and public performing was the inspired idea of cellist David Wells, then serving as chair of the chamber music department at the Manhattan School of Music, and his wife, the pianist Janet Wells, and

Whereas, the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival was adeptly named for the barn on the Wells's property that originally housed this quintessentially Vermont summer of great music making, and

Whereas, the general public derives great pleasure from the festival's wonderful faculty and student performances, and

Whereas, while much beloved, the performance and rehearsal facilities at the Wells family's Yellow Barn became insufficient, and the Putney School assumed the role of auxiliary headquarters for the festival's musical activities, and

Whereas, the festival's need for a larger primary performance home was met in its 2002 summer season when the "Big Barn" was opened behind the Putney Co-op on the town's Main Street, and

Whereas, during the 2005–2007 seasons, Yellow Barn divided its educational and performance activities between Amherst, Massachusetts and Putney, and

Whereas, the solution to this bifurcated existence was the acquisition of environmentally friendly rehearsal pods that have been located on the campus of the Greenwood School in Putney, enabling the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival to return all elements of its renowned musical brilliance to the festival's hometown, and

Whereas, in 2009, under the leadership of executive director Anna Rowe, artistic director Seth Knopp, and the still and watchful eyes of founders David and Janet Wells, the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival, now expanded to include residency programs throughout the year, celebrated its 40th anniversary of extraordinary chamber music making, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival on its 40th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Anna Rowe at the Yellow Barn Music School & Festival in Putney.