

**No. R-290. House concurrent resolution honoring Jeffrey M. Lewis for his people-centric organizational leadership.**

(H.C.R.230)

Offered by: Representatives Sabilia of Dover, Burke of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster, Gannon of Wilmington, Hebert of Vernon, Long of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney, Pajala of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Scheu of Middlebury, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Trieber of Rockingham

Offered by: Senators Balint and White

Whereas, Jeff Lewis began his career journey as a minister, an occupation that taught him empathy and the ability to work cooperatively and creatively in potentially divisive situations, and

Whereas, his migration to the corporate world began at Phoenix Life Insurance, continued as a senior consultant at the Patricia Seybold Group, and finished as the Chief Customer Officer of Monster.com, and

Whereas, Jeff Lewis decided to retire, allegedly, and he moved to the less hectic environs of Vermont; but enjoying a rocking chair was not the retirement modality he desired, and

Whereas, alternatively, he plunged into a new nonprofit-sector odyssey, beginning with an eight-year tenure as the Executive Director of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, and

Whereas, his vision, curiosity, and perseverance in that role connected southern Vermonters together to develop an award-winning and comprehensive economic development strategy, and

Whereas, subsequently, Jeff Lewis collaborated with Jennifer Stromsten to work on the Vermont Futures Project, an endeavor of the Vermont Chamber Foundation that seeks to invigorate the State's economy based on research and policy innovation, and

Whereas, in perhaps the post-ministerial assignment most beckoning for his pastoral skills, he bravely and successfully assumed the role of Interim Executive Director at the New England Center for Circus Arts, a locally beloved and internationally renowned circus training and performance organization where internal strife threatened its viability, and

Whereas, a passionate photographer, Jeff Lewis developed a stunning photographic collection of circus performers in action, and

Whereas, most recently, Jeff Lewis served as Executive Director of the Institute for Nuclear Host Communities, an organization that provides research support for communities planning a post-nuclear-power-plant-hosting era, such as now exists with the shuttering of Vermont Yankee, and

Whereas, this unique and dynamic conciliator has again announced his retirement, although no doubt his special talents will find another worthy societal beneficiary, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Jeffrey M. Lewis for his people-centric organizational leadership, and be it further

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