

No. R-342. House concurrent resolution congratulating John McClaughry on his half century of public service as Kirby Town Moderator.

(H.C.R.260)

Offered by: Representatives Quimby of Concord, Turner of Milton, Bancroft of Westford, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Canfield of Fair Haven, Feltus of Lyndon, Fiske of Enosburgh, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martel of Waterford, McCoy of Poultney, Myers of Essex, Shaw of Derby, Smith of New Haven, Strong of Albany, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Toll of Danville, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury

Offered by: Senators Benning, Doyle, Kitchel, and Starr

Whereas, John McClaughry is a Midwesterner by birth and a proud resident of the Caledonia County town Kirby by choice, and

Whereas, although he graduated from Miami University of Ohio as a physics and mathematics major and earned a master's degree in nuclear engineering from Columbia University, John McClaughry soon realized that politics, as both an observer and practitioner, was his life's true calling, and

Whereas, he proceeded to earn a master's degree in political science from the University of California at Berkley, and

Whereas, even as he was completing his second graduate degree, John McClaughry had his eyes and heart on the town of Kirby, purchasing the land on which he built his first cabin, and

Whereas, although John McClaughry has served on President Reagan's staff and as a military officer, represented his neighbors in both houses of the General Assembly, and worked as a writer, editor, and political commentator, he is always happiest being at his Kirby home in the woods, and

Whereas, while attending only his second Kirby Town Meeting, the voters decided that this newcomer in their midst was an ideal candidate to serve as town moderator, and

Whereas, the surprised John McClaughry accepted their nomination, hardly expecting to be still holding in this important municipal office 50 years later, and

Whereas, although he has playfully described his political perspective as that of "an old Whig, small 'r' Republican, Locofoco, Western progressive, Country Party, decentralist, Distributist, Jeffersonian, Reaganite," when wielding the gavel at the Kirby Town Meeting, John McClaughry assumes the presiding officer's traditional role of neutrality on the substance of the deliberations, and

Whereas, in 2016, John McClaughry will be admitted into the esteemed circle of Vermonters who have served as a town moderator for 50 years, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates its former colleague John McClaughry on his half century of public service as Kirby Town Moderator, and be it further

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