

No. R-403. House concurrent resolution honoring the South Burlington Community Library children's librarian Marje Von Ohlsen.

(H.C.R.272)

Offered by: Representatives Head of South Burlington, Audette of South Burlington, Geier of South Burlington and Pugh of South Burlington

Whereas, Marje Von Ohlsen has dedicated her life to working with children as a special needs teacher, elementary school principal, and since 1994 as the children's librarian at the South Burlington Community Library, and

Whereas, she is recognized as a leader and mentor among Vermont's children's librarians, and

Whereas, upon her arrival at the South Burlington Community Library, Marje Von Ohlsen implemented major children's services improvements, including relocating the library's Children's Room to a larger space and broadening the collection development policy to include the introduction of materials in new literature and media formats, and

Whereas, Marje Von Ohlsen initiated outreach activities, including early essential education story times at day care centers, preschools, and family centers, and in the summer of 2009, through her efforts, the children's bookmobile service was inaugurated, and

Whereas, among the roles Marje Von Ohlsen assumed as the South Burlington Community Library's children's librarian were parent liaison, teen volunteer supervisor, and documentation photographer, and

Whereas, her success at the South Burlington Community Library, including increased materials circulation and program attendance as well as the establishment of creative community partnerships, can be partially attributed to her effective

networking with educators, authors, storytellers, local businesses, social service providers, and parents, and

Whereas, Marje Von Ohlsen established an advisory group to encourage novice children's literature authors, and

Whereas, as a children's librarian, Marje Von Ohlsen actively participated in the statewide Books for Breakfast group, served on the Vermont Library Conference Committee, and was the children's librarian representative to the Vermont Library Association, and

Whereas, the Herbert and Margaret Turrell Fund awarded her a significant grant to fund library services for disadvantaged children, and

Whereas, Marje Von Ohlsen, known affectionately among her young patrons as Mrs. Marje, is retiring in 2010, and her professional accomplishments in South Burlington are those of an exemplary children's librarian, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors South Burlington children's librarian Marje Von Ohlsen for her outstanding professional performance and wishes her an enjoyable retirement, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Marje Von Ohlsen in South Burlington.