

No. R-463. House concurrent resolution congratulating Charles Hunter on being named the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year.

(H.C.R.330)

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham and Partridge of Windham

Whereas, each year, the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) recognizes an individual who has made a “notable contribution to the civic and social vitality” of its region which includes 15 Vermont and New Hampshire towns, and

Whereas, the 2010 recipient of this honor is Charles (Charlie) Hunter of Bellows Falls who is a renaissance man of the first order, and

Whereas, he grew up in Weathersfield and for a decade operated a music management company in Northampton, Massachusetts before returning to Vermont, and

Whereas, the Chamber honored him for his leadership in formatting the live Bellows Falls concert series known as Flying Under Radar, and

Whereas, the series performances have been held at several venues, including the auditorium now known as the Bellows Falls Opera House, the former Oona’s Restaurant, and the lobby of the former Hotel Windham, and

Whereas, the scope of his role as Bellows Falls’ musical impresario expanded to encompass the Roots on the River Festival which started with concerts of Americana and roots musician, Fred Eaglesmith, and

Whereas, Charlie Hunter's love of the roots musical genre took on a new dimension when he started the Roots on the Rails project, a nationwide rail excursion featuring live roots music, and

Whereas, other local and statewide organizations have benefited from Charlie Hunter's dynamic leadership, including the Bellows Falls Farmers' Market which he cofounded, the Great River Arts Institute, the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Vermont Rail Action Network, and the Making the Most of I women's education program at the Parks Place Community Resource Center, and

Whereas, he is now focusing his artistic talents on painting, and his images portray often overlooked elements of New England such as abandoned industrial structures and rail trestles, and

Whereas, Charlie Hunter's many contributions to Bellows Falls have improved the quality of life in the community, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Charles Hunter on being named the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Charlie Hunter in Bellows Falls.