

No. R-459. House concurrent resolution honoring Betty Kinsman for her pioneering leadership of the Springfield Area Parent Child Center.

(H.C.R.343)

Offered by: Representatives Martin of Springfield, Dakin of Chester, and Emmons of Springfield

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack, and Nitka

Whereas, after extensive planning, in 1992 the Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC) opened, and after a brief residency in the former Park Street School, purchased a building on Myrtle Street, and

Whereas, Betty Kinsman was hired as the first SAPCC director, and

Whereas, in 1997, in need of more space, the SAPCC relocated much of its activity to the former Springfield Decorating Center in North Springfield, and

Whereas, in the ensuing years, the SAPCC added additional programs and services, including, in 2002, Myrtle's Closet - A Thrift Store, used as a job training site, and the Learning Partners Child Center located at the Howard Dean Education Center, and

Whereas, in 2004, the SAPCC purchased its North Springfield building and the adjacent property, and

Whereas, after planning and experimental online fundraising, in 2009, a formal capital campaign for a new headquarters was launched, and

Whereas, privately raised funds and \$2.7 million in federal grants and loans led to the opening in June 2011 of a beautiful new \$3.5 million, 12,469-square-foot headquarters, and the old building was rehabilitated for rental apartments and the SAPCC's child advocacy center, and

Whereas, the SAPCC now serves 15 communities in Windsor and Windham counties and offers approximately 50 different services to children, young families, new mothers, and families in crisis, and

Whereas, these accomplishments would not have occurred without the dedicated leadership of Betty Kinsman who oversaw the SAPCC as it evolved, and

Whereas, after over two decades of exemplary work for the children and families of the greater Springfield area, Betty Kinsman retired in February 2014, leaving outstanding programs and an impressive headquarters as her professional legacy, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Betty Kinsman for her pioneering leadership of the Springfield Area Parent Child Center, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Betty Kinsman and to the Springfield Area Parent Child Center.