

No. R-479. House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding educators who are retiring from the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union.

(H.C.R.350)

Offered by: Representatives Mook of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Krawczyk of Bennington, Miller of Shaftsbury and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Hartwell and Sears

Whereas, the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union (SVSU) serves the towns of Bennington, Shaftsbury, Pownal, and Woodford, and

Whereas, 15 SVSU educators who are retiring in June have contributed to the education of students for a combination of 471 years, and

Whereas, Gracemary Jones (Pownal School District) has taught for 42 years, including first grade and Title I students, assisting students who need extra support and giving them a solid start in their school studies, and

Whereas, five teachers are retiring from the Bennington School District, including Gano Stevens, Bev Empey, Alberta Harrington, Cheryl King, and Gale Holden, and

Whereas, Gano Stevens, a 15-year special educator, has always demonstrated a sincere appreciation for all students, has consistently found the positive attributes of students, families, and peers with whom she has worked, and has demonstrated a high degree of patience and understanding of students' educational needs, and

Whereas, Bev Empey, a 22-year educator, has been a consummate professional in all positions she has held in the district, and she has

demonstrated diligence in acknowledging student differences, shown collegial support for other education professionals, and remained current in educational practices, laws, and protocols, and

Whereas, Alberta Harrington has taught for 25 years at Monument Elementary School, Molly Stark Elementary School, and Bennington Elementary School, and she has been unwavering in her advocacy for children, always expecting them to succeed, has served as a positive model for teachers throughout the district, and has demonstrated a high degree of civic involvement, and

Whereas, Cheryl King has taught for 38 years, finishing her career at the Molly Stark Elementary School teaching in the talented program, and has inspired and challenged her students to strive to do their best possible work, and

Whereas, Gale Holden, a 22-year educator, has taught at the School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales and the Catamount Elementary School and currently teaches at the Bennington Elementary School, she has taught kindergarten and fourth grade, and she has demonstrated a high degree of community and collegial stewardship and a high level of commitment to the welfare of the children and families of Bennington, and

Whereas, nine retiring teachers from the Mount Anthony Union School District in Bennington, including Bill Garrison, Patti Mears, Laurie Camelio, Deb Jennings, Chuck Webster, Pam Holley, Al Plante, Mary Marine, and Clark Boisvert, have contributed an amazing total of 307 years to the union district, and

Whereas, Bill Garrison, a 22-year teacher at Mount Anthony Union High School (MAUHS), is known as a conscientious special educator, has been instrumental in transitioning special education students to integrated mainstream classes, and will always be remembered for his attention to detail at his student–parent meetings, and

Whereas, Patti Mears, a social studies teacher for 34 years, has demonstrated her quiet leadership and teamwork, especially during her interim term as a core leader, and will always be known for her psychology classes in which she helped many students learn more about themselves, and

Whereas, Laurie Camelio, a math teacher for 32 years and longtime core leader, has dazzled students with her gentle prodding and mathematical magic and has been active on a variety of committees that have improved the direction of the school, and

Whereas, Deb Jennings, a 37-year veteran teacher who first taught home economics and later taught health, has continued to teach her ever-popular

quilting class, which students have always viewed as a safe haven with an understanding adult, and

Whereas, Chuck Webster, a highly respected social studies teacher who has taught middle school students for 40 years, developed, implemented, and assessed the eighth grade social justice and civics curriculum, and he was an avid hydroplane racer and is still a collector of antique motorboat engines, and

Whereas, Pam Holley, a 28-year veteran, has taught at both Mount Anthony Union Middle School (MAUMS) and MAUHS, and her students will remember her as an outstanding teacher in the alternative education program, a Spanish teacher, a STARS program leader, and a computer integration specialist, and

Whereas, she will be especially missed for her first-day pictures of students as they enter the middle school for the first time, and

Whereas, for 36 years, Al Plante has been a fixture at MAUMS, a beloved science teacher, and an excellent baseball and basketball coach at MAUHS, and his leadership and role model will be missed at both schools, and

Whereas, Mary Marine started her 41-year teaching career in Colorado in 1968, but MAUMS has had the pleasure of her teaching of science in her final year in 2009–2010 in a self-contained sixth grade class, and she did an excellent job building class web pages and preparing students for grade 7, and

Whereas, MAUHS Associate Principal Clark Boisvert started his teaching career at MAUMS as a science instructor, and he came to the high school to teach physics, and

Whereas, he was “drafted” to be an administrator due to his fondness for numbers and ability to assist with scheduling and budgeting, and

Whereas, during his 37-year tenure with the Mount Anthony Union District, Clark Boisvert has been even-tempered, displayed a sharp sense of humor, and this wonderful educator, who will be missed, supervised MAUHS dances in a unique way that cannot be duplicated, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the outstanding educators who are retiring from the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union and extends best wishes to each of them for a wonderful retirement, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each educator honored in this resolution.