

No. R-489. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

(H.C.R.366)

Offered by: Representatives Brennan of Colchester, Bouchard of Colchester, Condon of Colchester, and Spengler of Colchester

Offered by: Senator Mazza

Whereas, by the spring of 1944, the carefully planned Allied military strategy to defeat Nazi Germany was on course, and

Whereas, the culmination of this effort was the enormous D-Day Allied invasion of Normandy, France, under the bold military leadership of Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and

Whereas, as a preliminary step, on June 5, 1944, 13,000 allied paratroopers and gliders departed from British airfields for an aerial invasion of France, and

Whereas, early the next morning, June 6, 1944, the largest amphibious military assault force ever assembled, consisting of military personnel from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, as well as free French and Norwegians, left Great Britain in an armada of 156,000 troops, 11,000 aircraft, and 5,000 ships, and

Whereas, the destination was a 60-mile front of French beaches named Gold, Juno, Sword, Utah, and, perhaps most famously, Omaha, and

Whereas, the price for victory was not inexpensive, as 9,000 allied troops were killed or wounded, including 1,465 Americans who perished in the D-Day assault against General Erwin Rommel's Nazi forces, and

Whereas, in commemoration of this pivotal event in history, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on June 7, 2014, the Vermont National Guard Library and Museum is hosting D-Day 70th anniversary commemorative events, and

Whereas, this significant day of tribute and honor will include an open house, a special recognition of World War II veterans, and a variety of other activities, including a musical performance of the 40th Army Band, and

Whereas, the brave D-Day veterans deserve Vermonters' continuing thanks for their heroism and sacrifice on that auspicious day, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 70th anniversary of D-Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont National Guard Library and Museum in Colchester.