

**No. R-465. House concurrent resolution in memory of James H. Foster Jr.**

(H.C.R.391)

Offered by: Representatives Smith of New Haven and Norris of Shoreham

Whereas, Jim Foster was a lifelong Addison County resident who was agriculturally focused, and

Whereas, he graduated from Middlebury Union High School, earned an associate's degree in agricultural business management at Vermont Technical College, and graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in animal science, and

Whereas, in 1993, he married Tricia Eastwood, and he was an upstanding husband, father, and citizen of the town of Middlebury, and

Whereas, as a farmer, Jim Foster Jr., together with the Foster family, owned and operated the Foster Brothers Farm, Inc., and as a businessman he was an owner of Vermont Natural Ag Products, Inc., and

Whereas, Jim Foster served on the boards of the Vermont FFA Foundation and the Central Cemetery Association, and

Whereas, a major role, to which Jim Foster was deeply dedicated, was his community service as President of Addison County Fair and Field Days, the county's festive annual summer agricultural exhibition, and

Whereas, Jim Foster referred to the Addison County Fair and Field Days board members as our Field Days Family and worked to ensure the continuance of the event's family-friendly atmosphere, and

Whereas, as in all his endeavors, Jim Foster performed his presidential duties humbly and with the utmost fairness and integrity, and

Whereas, despite his busy days filled with business- and farm-related responsibilities, he always made time for Addison County Fair and Field Days duties, and

Whereas, when a meeting was scheduled, Jim Foster was always on time and ready to work on the matters before the board, and

Whereas, he was cost-conscious in managing the fair's expenses, and

Whereas, he was not merely the presiding officer but a truly hands-on member of the fair and field days community, and

Whereas, Jim Foster's tragic death in a farm accident in the autumn of 2017 was a great loss to his wife, children, and parents and to the Middlebury community, and a new Jim Foster Welcome Center at the Addison County Fair and Field Days will serve as a special memorial, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of James H. Foster Jr., and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Jim Foster and to the Addison County Fair and Field Days Board of Directors.