

No. R-230. Joint resolution honoring municipal public works employees and designating May 17–23 as Public Works Week in Vermont.

(J.R.H.22)

Offered by: Representatives Koch of Barre Town, Adams of Hartland, Ainsworth of Royalton, Baker of West Rutland, Browning of Arlington, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clark of Vergennes, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Donahue of Northfield, Emmons of Springfield, Fagan of Rutland City, Flory of Pittsford, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Montpelier, Hube of Londonderry, Hubert of Milton, Kilmartin of Newport City, Komline of Dorset, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Derby, Macaig of Williston, Marcotte of Coventry, McAllister of Highgate, McDonald of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, O'Donnell of Vernon, Pearce of Richford, Peaslee of Guildhall, Perley of Enosburg, Pugh of South Burlington, Reis of St. Johnsbury, Rodgers of Glover, Scheuermann of Stowe, Stevens of Shoreham, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Townsend of Randolph, Turner of Milton, Wright of Burlington and Zenie of Colchester

Whereas, much of the highway and bridge network in Vermont is municipally owned, and the responsibility for its maintenance is assigned to local public works departments, and

Whereas, the regular duties of city and town public works departments' employees encompass general roadway and bridge maintenance on a year-round basis, and

Whereas, when extremely inclement weather strikes, such as a severe snowstorm or a thunderstorm whose elements include high velocity winds, municipal public works department crews are called upon to perform near-heroic tasks under the worst possible climatic conditions and not infrequently in the middle of the night, and

Whereas, these special but essential jobs can range from removing snow from the highway while blowing drifts are inhibiting steady progress to supporting utility crews removing trees entangled in dangerously electrified cables, and

Whereas, on May 13, the Vermont Municipal Highway Association will hold its annual field day and expo at the Barre Auditorium, and

Whereas, local public works crews from many communities will attend this much-anticipated event, and

Whereas, the Vermont Municipal Highway Association event also serves as a showcase for vendors to exhibit new products that public works staff can examine and consider purchasing, and

Whereas, May is also an important month for these dedicated municipal employees as the week of May 17–23 is being observed as Public Works Week in order to recognize these all-too-often unsung heroes who maintain highways, bridges, and other essential municipal infrastructure 365 days a year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Vermont's outstanding municipal public works employees and designates May 17–23 as Public Works Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Barre Town Engineer and Municipal Highway Association Secretary-Treasurer Harry Hinrichsen.