

No. R-488. Joint resolution supporting the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association's effort to preserve the Camp Letterman hospital site.

(J.R.S.59)

By All Members of the Senate,

Whereas, Vermonters honor the memory of Dr. Henry Janes, the Waterbury village physician and U.S. Army surgeon sent to Gettysburg immediately after the battle to take charge of all the wounded, and

Whereas, Doctor Janes established the main hospital, called Camp Letterman, east of the village of Gettysburg, and

Whereas, much of the site of Camp Letterman is part of a 191-acre parcel that the land developer S&A Homes owns and plans to develop for townhouses, and

Whereas, an extensive list of Civil War-related associations, historians, and historical societies have asked that the 17 key acres of Camp Letterman be preserved, and

Whereas, those precious acres include the area where the tents containing the wounded were located, and

Whereas, Vermont wounded were treated there, including members of the Second Vermont Brigade that broke the right flank of Pickett's Charge, and

Whereas, the wounded Vermonters were among the 4,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who were patients at Camp Letterman, and not all of these patients survived, and

Whereas, if the 17 acres that were a part of Camp Letterman are not preserved, a major Civil War site, important to the Civil War history of Vermont, will be lost, and

Whereas, Vermonters have long rallied to the preservation of sites that are dear to our State's and our nation's history, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly supports the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association's effort to preserve the Camp Letterman hospital site and requests that S&A Homes preserve these 17 acres of historic ground, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association and to S&A Homes in State College, Pennsylvania.