No. R-168. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of University of Vermont Professor Emeritus Everett W. Harris of Charlotte.

(S.C.R.24)

By Senator Lyons,

Whereas, Everett Harris’s scholarly life began in a one-room Wolcott schoolhouse and eventually led to a professorship at the University of Vermont’s College of Agriculture, and

Whereas, interwoven with his role as an educator was a life-long passion for farming, of which he was an ardent proponent for young Vermonters pursuing agriculturally related careers, and

Whereas, after graduating from People’s Academy and the University of Vermont with a degree in agricultural education, Everett Harris devoted the next decade to his twin interests of teaching and farming, and

Whereas, after his father’s death, Everett Harris left his teaching job in Chelsea to work on the family farm and assist his mother in the raising of his younger brothers, and

Whereas, he decided to tackle new challenges, earning a doctorate in vocational-technical education at the University of Illinois and then accepting an assistant professorship at Marshall University in West Virginia, and

Whereas, in 1978, Everett Harris returned home to raise his family and join the faculty of his alma mater, the University of Vermont’s College of Agriculture, and
Whereas, after a distinguished career in academia, Edward Harris retired from the University of Vermont in 2000 as a Professor Emeritus in Community Development and Applied Economics, and

Whereas, his retirement was in name only as he embarked on new and personally fulfilling roles at the Department of Education where his expertise in technical and agricultural education proved an invaluable resource, and

Whereas, Everett Harris was also a conscientious citizen, chairing the Wolcott school board, serving on the Lamoille County planning commission, and playing primary roles in the establishment of Lamoille County Field Days and the preservation of the Fisher Covered Railroad Bridge, and

Whereas, Everett Harris served as a state and national leader for the Future Farmers of America which, in appreciation for his service to the organization and aspiring farmers, awarded him its Honorary American Farmer Degree, and

Whereas, he was the recipient of many accolades and, perhaps most noteworthy, in 2007, the University of Vermont College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and its Extension School bestowed on him the Sinclair Cup for distinguished service and exemplary leadership, and

Whereas, this Vermont teacher and farmer, whose Yankee sense of humor was legendary among his colleagues and friends, died on March 3, 2009, leaving his wife, Kathleen, daughters, Susannah and Elizabeth, and three grandchildren, now therefore be it
Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of University of Vermont Professor Emeritus Everett W. Harris, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Kathleen Harris in Shelburne and Elizabeth Harris and Susannah Harris Dicker, both of New York City.