

**No. R-202. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Judge Franklin Swift Billings, Jr., and Mrs. Pauline Richardson Gillingham Billings on their 60th wedding anniversary.**

(S.C.R.23)

By Senators Illuzzi, Ashe, Campbell, Carris, Doyle, Galbraith, McCormack, Nitka and Starr.

*Whereas, Franklin S. Billings, Jr.*, of Woodstock fought for freedom in World War II with the British 8th Army and the 6th Armored Division, earning both a Purple Heart and the British Empire Medal, having been injured at the Battle of Monte Cassino in Southern Italy on May 27, 1944, requiring five months of recovery and recuperation at a United States Army hospital in Italy, and four months at a United States Army hospital stateside, and finally at the Lakota Club in Barnard, and

*Whereas*, his state government executive branch appointments included the governor's executive clerk and secretary of civil and military affairs, and

*Whereas*, his state government legislative branch roles included service as assistant secretary and secretary of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives, where he was member of the Young Turks, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and

*Whereas*, Judge Billings's judicial branch roles began when he was a municipal judge in Hartford and proceeded to include serving as a Vermont superior court judge, Vermont supreme court justice and chief justice, United States district court judge, and later as the chief judge of the federal court in Vermont, and

*Whereas*, his municipal civic engagement in the town of Woodstock included serving as a village trustee, a selectman, and town and village moderator, as well as service to nonprofit organizations including as president of the Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation and as a Vermont Law School trustee, and

*Whereas*, for many years, **Pauline R. G. Billings** owned and operated her family's business, F.H. Gillingham and Sons in Woodstock, and

*Whereas*, her involvement in the state's arts community has been extensive and has included leadership roles at the Vermont Arts Council, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the Pentangle Council on the Arts, and Vermont Public Radio, and

*Whereas*, Pauline Billings served as a director of Shelburne Farms and as a trustee of Park-McCullough House and Earlham College, and

*Whereas*, governors appointed her to state commissions relating to Act 200 and the capitol complex, and she has been an active member of the Friends of the State House, and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Billings served on a special legislative committee with Lola Aiken of Montpelier and Arthur Williams of Fayston to work on the restoration of the Senate Chamber, and

*Whereas*, the Vermont Arts Council has awarded Mrs. Billings its Lifetime Achievement Award, and

*Whereas*, Judge Franklin and Mrs. Pauline Billings will be joyously celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on October 13, 2011 with their family, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Judge Franklin and Pauline Billings on their 60th wedding anniversary as well as for their ongoing contributions to the state, to several leading civic organizations, and to their community, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Franklin S. Billings, Jr., and Pauline R. G. Billings in Woodstock.