

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

House Resolution

H.R. 22

House resolution honoring the historic legislative service of former Speaker of the House Timothy J. O'Connor, Jr.

Offered by: Representatives Nease of Johnson, Komline of Dorset, Haas of Rochester, Obuchowski of Rockingham, Burke of Brattleboro, Edwards of Brattleboro, Milkey of Brattleboro, and O'Donnell of Vernon

Whereas, during his illustrious careers in the public and private sectors, former Speaker of the House Timothy O'Connor has distinguished himself in the legal and political spheres, and

Whereas, a Brattleboro native, Timothy O'Connor graduated from St. Michael's High School, the College of Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, upon completion of law school in our nation's capital, Timothy O'Connor returned home to Brattleboro and commenced the practice of law, and

Whereas, the members of the state mental health board appreciated his wise advice during his service on that panel from 1967 through 1973, and

Whereas, in 1968, the voters of house district 4-3, encompassing parts of the town of Brattleboro, elected Timothy O'Connor to represent them in Montpelier, and

Whereas, for his first term, Representative Timothy O'Connor was appointed to the judiciary committee, to which he brought his legal expertise; in his second term, he reviewed matters pertaining to the well-being of Vermonters as a member of the health and welfare committee; and then in 1973 he returned to the judiciary committee as chair, and

Whereas, his legislative colleagues greatly respected Representative Timothy O'Connor's sound judgment, and they elected him to serve on the University of Vermont Board of Trustees, on which he sat from 1973 through 1979, and

Whereas, during the course of his legislative service, Representative Timothy O'Connor learned to work cooperatively and productively with other members regardless of their political party affiliation, and

Whereas, in 1975, notwithstanding the existence of a Republican majority, the goodwill and respect Representative Timothy O'Connor had earned was rewarded when he was elected as the first Democratic speaker of the Vermont House of Representatives, and

Whereas, Speaker Timothy O'Connor proved to be an effective and energetic speaker during the three terms in which he led the larger branch of Vermont's citizen legislature, and

Whereas, at the close of the 1979-1980 biennium, Speaker Timothy O'Connor concluded his speakership and returned to Brattleboro to practice law, and

Whereas, during the intervening decades, Timothy O'Connor has been an active civic and community leader and an esteemed legal practitioner, and

Whereas, today, January 5, 2010, the General Assembly is pleased to welcome former Speaker Timothy O'Connor to the state house and to honor his long and outstanding commitment to serving the citizens of the state of Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body honors the historic legislative service of former Speaker of the House Timothy J. O'Connor, Jr., and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to former Speaker of the House Timothy J. O'Connor, Jr.