

**No. R-52. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Berlin and Northfield Chief of Police William Michael Jennings.**

(H.C.R.40)

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Goslant of Northfield, and Grad of Moretown

Whereas, law enforcement officials in central Vermont respected Bill Jennings as a police chief who exercised his command duties expertly and responsibly, and

Whereas, the Town of Berlin had long relied on external police services to fulfill the municipality's law enforcement requirements, but the commercial, retail, and residential growth in the community, plus the presence of a continuously expanding regional medical center, necessitated a new approach to the provision of this essential public service, and

Whereas, in 1991, Berlin called upon Bill Jennings to establish a town police department, and

Whereas, Bill Jennings commanded a police force that performed its role with a high degree of professionalism, and

Whereas, after many years on the job, Bill Jennings retired as Berlin's exemplary police chief, with much appreciation from his fellow citizens, and

Whereas, however, Bill Jennings' law enforcement career was not yet concluded, as he accepted a position with the Montpelier Police Department, and

Whereas, when officials in the Town of Northfield were searching for a new police chief they turned to Bill Jennings, knowing that his performance in Berlin constituted an ideal resume for this job, and

Whereas, once again, Bill Jennings exceeded his employer's expectations, and his distinguished service continued in Northfield until 2017, and

Whereas, beyond Vermont's borders, Bill Jennings was honored to work on the security detail at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia, and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, and

Whereas, after a courageous battle against cancer, Bill Jennings died on December 26, 2018, and his survivors include his mother, Mary Jennings, and his children, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of William Michael Jennings of Northfield, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mary Jennings and the children of Bill Jennings.