

No. R-85. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Pownal Town Clerk Rachel Mason.

(H.C.R.62)

Offered by: Representatives Botzow of Pownal, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, Rachel (Fowler) Mason was born in Pownal on February 24, 1918 when Vermonters were focused on the Great War raging in Europe, and

Whereas, she was educated in the Pownal public schools and graduated from the former Bennington High School, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason was actively involved in Pownal municipal government for many decades, having served as town clerk and treasurer for 39 consecutive years until her retirement in 1991, and

Whereas, under Rachel Mason's thoughtful direction, Pownal conducted local, State, and federal elections and maintained its municipal records in an organized manner, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason's municipal government roles also included service as a town auditor and member of the board of civil authority, and

Whereas, her career as a municipal government leader was only one aspect of Rachel Mason's active civic engagement, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason was a recognized community poet who wrote of her town's history and her own life in lively verse, and

Whereas, in 2010, shortly before her 92nd birthday, Rachel Mason recited a sample of her Pownal history poetry at the town's 250th anniversary celebration, and her reading was posted on YouTube, and

Whereas, for an impressive 80 years, Rachel Mason was a member of the Bennington Grange and served in many leadership positions, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason volunteered for both the local 4-H and the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, and

Whereas, the Camp Ondawa Association appreciated her fine work as one of its trustees, and

Whereas, worshipers at the Second Congregational Church in Bennington knew Rachel Mason as a member of their congregation, and

Whereas, Rachel Mason died on August 31, 2016, and her survivors include her four children, David, Doris, Connie, and Terri; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two great-great-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 former Pownal Town Clerk Rachel Mason, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Rachel Mason's family.