

**No. R-300. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative Gordon N. Stafford of Brighton.**

(H.C.R.240)

Offered by: Representatives Lefebvre of Newark, Batchelor of Derby, Feltus of Lyndon, Higley of Lowell, Lawrence of Lyndon, Marcotte of Coventry, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, Smith of Derby, Strong of Albany, Troiano of Stannard, Viens of Newport City, and Young of Glover

Offered by: Senators Benning, Rodgers, and Starr

Whereas, although he was an identical twin, Gordy Stafford's distinctive presence and persona were well known in his legislative district and in the General Assembly, where his colleagues called him "Tiny," and

Whereas, Gordy Stafford was born on October 19, 1938 and attended elementary school in Island Pond and St. Patrick's High School in Berlin, New Hampshire, and

Whereas, a proud veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Gordy Stafford served in the Vietnam War, continued his post-active-duty military service as a member of the Vermont Army National Guard, and won a state championship on the all-Army pistol team, and

Whereas, after his discharge from active-duty military service, he returned home to Island Pond, becoming a welder on the Canadian National (later St. Lawrence and Atlantic) Railroad, working on the rail line running through Island Pond to Portland, Maine, and

Whereas, active as a labor leader at work, Gordy Stafford served on the Vermont Labor Council for 20 years, and

Whereas, in the Island Pond community, Gordy Stafford's memberships included the American Legion, of which he was first vice commander, the Knights of Columbus, the Masonic Lodge, the National Rifle Association, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and

Whereas, he was a parishioner of St. James the Greater Catholic church, and

Whereas, aside from these activities, Gordy Stafford was a participant in the political arena, chairing the local Republican committee for 20 years, and

Whereas, his political activism led Gordy Stafford to stand for election to the General Assembly, where he served with distinction for seven consecutive terms beginning in 1985, and he was a member, clerk, and vice chair of the House Committee on General and Military Affairs, and

Whereas, former Representative Gordy Stafford was a man of independent beliefs that he held dear, and

Whereas, Gordy Stafford died on September 25, 2017 at 78 years of age, and his survivors include his wife of nearly 52 years, Mary; children, Timothy, Paul, and Sharon; five grandchildren; twin brother, Gregory; and sisters, Jane and Joan, 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 Representative Gordon N. Stafford of Brighton, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Gordy Stafford's family and to the Brighton Town Clerk.