

No. R-331. House concurrent resolution congratulating the JK Adams Co. of Dorset on its 80th anniversary.

(H.C.R.252)

Offered by: Representative Rice of Dorset

Whereas, JK Adams, Dorset’s largest employer, was established on December 31, 1944, when founder Josiah Knowles Adams held an organizational directors’ meeting at Barrow’s House Inn in Dorset, and

Whereas, this Vermont firm “designs, manufactures and markets a line of customizable, functional, and high-quality wood products for the kitchen and home,” and

Whereas, central themes for JK Adams are “rooted in nature, crafted for the home,” and “the kitchen is the heart of the home,” and

Whereas, in 1949, engineer and attorney Malcolm Cooper Sr. secured partial ownership in the company; in 1959, he bought out Josiah Adams; and, today, his son and grandsons hold corporate leadership roles in this family-owned business, and

Whereas, the Jones Garage in Dorset, today an office building, was the company’s first production location, but, soon thereafter, JK Adams purchased the abandoned South Dorset icehouse, and this site, following early additions to the building, sustained a devastating 1962 fire that resulted in the construction of a new 22,000-square-foot metal structure, and after further expansion, this facility remains its manufacturing home, and

Whereas, over the decades, JK Adams has introduced new products and computerized production technology; opened the Kitchen Store, a retail facility, in Dorset; and has manufactured kitchen and homeware products for its own sales and those of other retailers, such as Crate & Barrel, Sur la Table, and Uncommon Goods, and

Whereas, JK Adams maintains a 19-acre plot of trees and forest that is subject to a forest-management plan; in 2009, it became the first company in its industry to earn Forest Stewardship Council certification; and, in 2022, the company became a Vermont State Benefit Corporation “expanding on its mission to sustainably craft heirloom products that nurture sharing food and connections, while investing in a culture of social opportunity and environmental responsibility,” now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the JK Adams Co. of Dorset on its 80th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to JK Adams.