

No. R-336. House concurrent resolution in memory of Donald G. Milne of Washington, the respected former Clerk of the House.

(H.C.R.253)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, former House Clerk Don Milne sat as the member from Washington during the historic first post-reapportionment legislative session of 1966, and

Whereas, preceding his term as a legislator, Don Milne served as Second Assistant Clerk of the House and then experienced life in the other body as Assistant Secretary of the Senate, before “returning home” as First Assistant Clerk of the House, and

Whereas, his vast knowledge of legislative process, especially as practiced in Vermont, made Don Milne an ideal candidate to be elected as Clerk of the House, and

Whereas, for eleven and one-half biennia, beginning in January 1993 and under five Speakers, parliamentary order in the Vermont House of Representatives benefited from his wise advice, and

Whereas, from the moment he first took the Clerk’s oath of office and until his retirement on September 30, 2015, Don Milne was an unfailingly fair and nonpartisan parliamentarian, who never allowed his personal opinion on an issue, nor a Speaker’s partisan affiliation, to affect his procedural guidance, and

Whereas, Don Milne’s familiar, though neither melodious nor theatrical, voice was heard on many roll call votes and bill first readings, and

Whereas, whenever a parliamentary inquiry or point of order was raised, all concerned—and at times that proved to be a rather large crowd—would huddle around the Clerk’s desk, waiting attentively to hear Don Milne’s perspective, and

Whereas, in his role as a member of the editorial committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures’ *Mason’s Manual of Legislative Procedure*, he worked on behalf of all state legislators, and

Whereas, this extraordinary parliamentarian and loving husband, father, and grandfather, died on January 24, 2016, and he will be remembered as an exemplary public servant, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly remembers with much affection former Clerk of the House Don Milne and extends its sincere condolences to his family, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Don Milne’s family.