

**No. R-372. House concurrent resolution congratulating Melba Masse on her induction into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame.**

(H.C.R.300)

Offered by: Representatives Myers of Essex, Bancroft of Westford, Dunn of Essex, Giambatista of Essex, and Houghton of Essex

Whereas, the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame, which in 2018 is inducting Melba Masse into the organization's ranks, has described this half-century veteran of Essex High School athletics as the "queen of master schedules," and

Whereas, this affectionate moniker describes Melba Masse's decades-long and ongoing role devising the sports schedules of the Northern Vermont Athletic Conference, an organization she cofounded and for which she served for many years as executive secretary, and

Whereas, her extraordinary leadership in expanding the scope of girls' varsity athletics opportunities in our State is legendary, and

Whereas, Melba Masse's career at Essex High School included a 36-year tenure teaching mathematics and physical education; coaching seven sports; and serving a short stint as the school's athletic director, and

Whereas, even after her official retirement from the Essex High School faculty, she remained employed for another 15 years as the administrative assistant to the school's athletic director, and

Whereas, near the conclusion of her second career at Essex High School, the National Federation of State High School Associations presented Melba Masse with an honorary citation, and

Whereas, the influential career of Melba Masse had its origins at the former Cambridge High School, where she played on the girls' basketball team, and she continued playing the sport as a Johnson State College student, and

Whereas, in 1954, her first coaching duties at Essex were with the girls' basketball team and the cheerleading squad, girls' only sports options, and

Whereas, she introduced softball to Essex High School and coached the school's and Vermont's first State championship field hockey team, and

Whereas, the entire scheme of State high school championships was one Melba Masse helped pioneer, and she later served as the championship coordinator for the Vermont Principals' Association, and

Whereas, her induction into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame is richly deserved, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Melba Masse on her induction into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Melba Masse and to Essex High School.