

No. R-324. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Senator Robert A. Starr of Orleans District for his decades of distinguished public service.

(S.C.R.18)

By Senators Ingalls, Baruth, Bray, Brock, Champion, Chittenden, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Norris, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, Sears, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White, Williams, and Wrenner,

By Representatives Page of Newport City, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Higley of Lowell, Labor of Morgan, LaBounty of Lyndon, Marcotte of Coventry, Parsons of Newbury, Pearl of Danville, Quimby of Lyndon, Sims of Craftsbury, Smith of Derby, Templeman of Brownington, Troiano of Stannard, and Williams of Granby

Whereas, Bobby Starr has resided nearly all his life in the Village of North Troy and graduated from North Troy High School, and

Whereas, as a businessman, he is the president of the trucking company Starr's United Inc., but his true passion is public service, and

Whereas, in the Town of Troy, of which the Village of North Troy is a part, Bobby Starr has sat on the Zoning Board and Planning Commission, the School Board, and the Board of Civil Authority and has served as town moderator, and, regionally, he served as a member of the Orleans-Essex North Supervisory Union Board and for its successor, the North Country Supervisory Union, as moderator, and

Whereas, his initial election as the House member from Troy occurred in 1978, and the 2004 election sent him across the State House hallway to become one of the two senators representing the Orleans District, and

Whereas, as a legislator, Robert Starr has been focused on Vermont's crucial agriculture sector, especially dairy farming, and his leadership has included long tenures ably chairing the House (1985–2000) and the Senate (2013–2024) Committees on Agriculture; and, in the policy arena, he chaired the Senate Committee on Education (2009–2012), and

Whereas, Bobby Starr was instrumental in the establishment of the Northeast Interstate Compact for Dairy Pricing, an organization designed to facilitate an economically viable base price for the region's dairy farmers' milk; and, on the lighter side, his teams frequently won the interbranch legislative milking competition at the Vermont Farm Show, and

Whereas, continuing Vermont's agricultural heritage through the preservation of the State's farmland has always been of great importance to Senator Robert Starr, and he has actively supported the Current Use Program, which was originally enacted in 1978, and has led the efforts to improve and update the legislation, and

Whereas, as a Vermont Technical College alumnus and State College trustee, Senator Robert Starr was a strong advocate for the school's educational programs related to agriculture and those students studying agriculture, and

Whereas, in 2024, Robert Starr is concluding an illustrious four and a half decades as an Orleans District member of the General Assembly, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Senator Robert A. Starr of Orleans District for his decades of distinguished public service, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Senator Robert Starr.