

No. R-80. House concurrent resolution honoring firefighter extraordinaire and former Marshfield Town Moderator Tom Maclay.

(H.C.R.62)

Offered by: Representative Ancel of Calais

Offered by: Senators Perchlik, Cummings, and Pollina

Whereas, the citizens of Marshfield and all Vermonters are most fortunate that Tom Maclay has dedicated much of his life to volunteer public service of a caliber and longevity that few persons are privileged to achieve, and

Whereas, Tom Maclay's firefighting odyssey began in September 1962 when he joined the Marshfield Volunteer Fire Department, and

Whereas, this new recruit was destined for an illustrious career involving every imaginable aspect of fire protection, from dousing local blazes at all hours to statewide fire protection leadership, and

Whereas, as the department's secretary-treasurer, he kept consistently accurate minutes and carefully oversaw departmental finances, a duty he also exercised for 46 years as a member of the Marshfield budget committee, and

Whereas, from 1995 to 2005, Tom Maclay was the respected Marshfield Fire Chief, mentoring new members and supervising the departmental response to a wide range of emergencies, and

Whereas, a related office that Tom Maclay held with distinction for 36 years was Marshfield Town Fire Warden, and

Whereas, beyond the town's borders, for over 20 years, Tom Maclay served as the exemplary secretary-treasurer of the Coalition of Fire and Rescue Services, an organization advocating at the General Assembly on matters affecting all first responders, and on the coalition's behalf he regularly testified before legislative committees, and

Whereas, for more than two decades he volunteered for the Vermont Dry Hydrant Program, a key resource for rural departments, becoming an expert on all aspects of the program and closely collaborating with the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts, and

Whereas, in a completely different sphere, Tom Maclay developed nimble parliamentary skills, serving for 23 years as the exemplary Marshfield Town Moderator, a tenure that was among the longest in the State and featured lively deliberations under his watchful eye and trusty gavel, which ensured Town Meeting was conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, and

Whereas, this hardworking Vermonter has received special recognition in the Congressional Record, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors firefighter extraordinaire and former Marshfield Town Moderator Tom Maclay, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tom Maclay and the Marshfield Volunteer Fire Department.