State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 278

House concurrent resolution congratulating *Vermont Woman* on winning the 2007 New England Press Association's Newspaper of the Year Award and related honors

Offered by: Representative Pugh of S. Burlington

<u>Whereas</u>, in 2002, perceiving the strong need for a newspaper designed for women readers that men would also find informative, a daring group of Vermont women and men launched *Vermont Woman*, and

<u>Whereas</u>, thoughtful regular columns such as Eyes of Ceres and Older Wiser, informative articles written with great style and verve, an attractive layout, and well designed illustrations each contributed to *Vermont Woman*'s rapid acceptance in the journalism fraternity, and

Whereas, in 2003, Vermont Woman earned its first award, a third-place prize from the Vermont Press Association (VPA) for general excellence, and

<u>Whereas</u>, in 2005, *Vermont Woman* won first-place honors from the New England Press Association (NEPA) in the general news story and feature photo categories, and, in 2006, the VPA awarded *Vermont Woman* first-place awards in feature-writing and headline-writing, and NEPA presented the paper a top prize for a human interest feature story, and

<u>Whereas</u>, these accolades along with a number of second- and third-place awards from both organizations further enhanced *Vermont Woman*'s esteem among its publishing peers, and

<u>Whereas</u>, all of these honors were merely a prelude to the unexpected presentation to *Vermont Woman* of the NEPA's 2007 Newspaper of the Year Award in the biweekly–monthly publication category, a recognition that no Vermont publication, regardless of its frequency of issuance, has ever received, and

Whereas, a NEPA competition judge commented, "I can not imagine being a woman living in Vermont and not being a reader of *Vermont Woman*," and

<u>Whereas</u>, NEPA also recognized *Vermont Woman* with first-place prizes in the general news story category for Carrie Chandler's April 2007 cover story, "Inconvenient Choices: The Future of Vermont's Energy Supply & Demand," and in the feature photo category for editor Margaret Michniewicz's portrait of Monkton farmer Norma Norris with her two grandsons, as well as with additional second- (feature photo) and third- (general news story) place awards, and

<u>Whereas</u>, these prestigious 2007 regional journalism awards are an amazing accomplishment, and the entire staff of *Vermont Woman* can be extraordinarily proud, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates *Vermont Woman* on winning the 2007 New England Press Association's Newspaper of the Year Award and related honors, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to *Vermont Woman*'s publisher, Sue Gillis.