

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 529

Commending Brigadier General George Stannard and the Second Vermont  
Brigade upon the 144th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont submitted the following resolution; which was referred  
to the Committee on Armed Services

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## RESOLUTION

Commending Brigadier General George Stannard and the  
Second Vermont Brigade upon the 144th anniversary  
of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Whereas in July 1863 the men of the Second Vermont Brigade, commanded by Brigadier General George Stannard, reached Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, which was to become the greatest battlefield of the Civil War, having only days and hours remaining in their nine-month enlistments;

Whereas when called upon to fight late on the second day of the battle, the Second Vermont Brigade helped stabilize the Union line on Cemetery Ridge, recaptured a battery of artillery, and captured 80 Confederate soldiers;

Whereas on the morning of July 3 the 13th Vermont, 14th Vermont, and 16th Vermont Regiments of the Second

Vermont Brigade were positioned in front of the Union line;

Whereas while Confederate artillery shelled the Union positions for two hours in the early afternoon, the Vermonters held firm;

Whereas when General Robert E. Lee launched his frontal assault, known ever after as Pickett's Charge, the Vermonters responded by launching an attack;

Whereas General Stannard ordered the 13th and 16th Regiments to "change front forward on first company" and swing out into a no-man's land of shot and shell;

Whereas the sudden onslaught broke the flank of Pickett's Charge, the Confederates themselves saying it was the Vermonters' fire that defeated them;

Whereas the 16th Vermont launched a second flank attack that defeated a supporting Confederate assault;

Whereas the 14th Vermont held firm its position throughout the charge;

Whereas the 12th Vermont and 15th Vermont Regiments of General Stannard's Second Vermont Brigade, having completed the long march to the battlefield, also stood ready to fight;

Whereas a grand statue of General Stannard stands on Cemetery Ridge honoring all the Vermonters who fought at the Battle of Gettysburg; and

Whereas Vermonters have long remembered the deeds of their sons on those shot-torn fields of Pennsylvania: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That upon the occasion of the 144th anni-
- 2       versary of the Battle of the Gettysburg, the House of Rep-

1 resentatives honors the heroic actions of the Second  
2 Vermont Brigade on the greatest battlefield of the Civil  
3 War, recalling its sacrifices in preserving the Union and  
4 in giving the United States of America a “new birth of  
5 freedom”.

