

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY  
2 RESOLUTION

3  
4 Establishing the Dr. Mildred A. Reardon Scholarship

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6 Submitted to VMS Council by John P. Fogarty, M.D. on September 7, 2005  
7 VMS Council Recommendation: Support  
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10 WHEREAS, The cost of a medical education at a public medical school has increased by  
11 312 percent over the past 20 years creating a severe economic impediment to the  
12 education and formation of physicians; and

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14 WHEREAS, The median debt carried by a medical school graduate is nearly \$100,000,  
15 putting great financial pressure on graduates during their years of residency and first  
16 years of practice; and

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18 WHEREAS, Among all medical schools, in 2003 the University of Vermont College of  
19 Medicine ranked 14<sup>th</sup> highest with an average debt of \$133,429 reflecting the relatively  
20 high tuition for both resident and non-resident students, due to modest portion of the  
21 overall budget provided by the State of Vermont and the lack of an extensive  
22 endowment; and

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24 WHEREAS, According to a 2003 article in the *Journal of the American Medical*  
25 *Association*, Vermont is beginning to see the signs of a shortage of physicians,  
26 particularly in its rural areas and among specialties; and

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28 WHEREAS, Vermont's comparatively low physician reimbursement rates make  
29 practicing in Vermont particularly difficult for recent medical graduates with  
30 outstanding medical school debt; and

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32 WHEREAS, Dr. Mildred "Mimi" Reardon has been in constant service of the Vermont  
33 medical community for nearly 35 years, pioneering the Area Health Education Centers  
34 Program, championing the hospice movement, and playing a leading role in the  
35 formation of the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, Inc.; and

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37 WHEREAS, As Associate Dean for Primary Care at the University of Vermont's  
38 College of Medicine, Dr. Reardon has displayed a passion for the education and training  
39 of physicians;

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41 WHEREAS, Through her efforts to gain Freeman Foundation support to aid medical  
42 students, Dr. Reardon has shown a commitment to ensuring that financial need not be  
43 an impediment to medical education; and

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45 WHEREAS, Dr. Reardon has been instrumental in the formation of the Vermont  
46 Medical Society Education and Research Fund, serving as an At-Large Director and as  
47 the first Corporation President; and

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WHEREAS, It is part of the mission of the Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Fund to “provide grants and scholarships to deserving medical students enrolled at the University of Vermont College of Medicine;

WHEREAS, The intent of such grants and scholarships is to “provide an incentive for recipients to pursue a career in medicine and to provide motivation for recipients to practice in Vermont;” and

WHEREAS, This purpose could no more perfectly align with the values and efforts displayed by Dr. Reardon as a practitioner, educator, and leader of Vermont’s medical community; therefore be it

**RESOLVED, That the Vermont Medical Society, in collaboration with the Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Fund, establish a scholarship in the name of Mildred A. Reardon, M.D., to be presented at each year’s annual meeting to a deserving medical student enrolled at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, in order to provide an incentive for students to pursue a career in medicine and to provide motivation for graduates to practice medicine in Vermont.**