

No. R-473. House concurrent resolution welcoming to Vermont the Association of Food and Drug Officials' 122nd Annual Educational Conference.

(H.C.R.399)

Offered by: Representative Macaig of Williston

Whereas, laws intended to protect food from impurities date to 1641 in colonial Massachusetts, and

Whereas, in 1896, the Ohio Food and Dairy Commissioner Joseph Blackburn and his Michigan counterpart, Elliot Grosvenor, met in Toledo, Ohio, to set the framework for a professional organization that would promote regulatory uniformity for consumer food laws, and

Whereas, on August 25, 1897, a larger gathering of similarly focused state officials, with representation from the states of Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, took place in Detroit, Michigan, and

Whereas, from this meeting emerged the National Association of State Dairy and Food Departments, the forerunner of today's Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO), and

Whereas, AFDO seeks the enactment of uniform food, drug, cosmetic, device, and product safety laws in every state; promotes and facilitates uniform enforcement of these matters at all governmental levels; develops training programs that assist uniform enforcement and supportive analytic techniques; identifies defects in existing food, drug, and cosmetics consumer protection laws; and sponsors scholarships for students pursuing careers devoted to assuring consumers that these products are safe, and

Whereas, in order to maximize consumer protection, cooperation among AFDO members, federal officials, and industry is a core principle of the organization, and AFDO fosters a strong relationship between the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the states, and

Whereas, on a rotating basis, the six regional AFDO affiliated organizations host the Annual AFDO Educational Conference, and the Northeast Food and Drug Officials Association (NEFDOA), whose members represent the New England states, New York, and the Atlantic and eastern Canadian provinces, are pleased to serve as the host of this year's Conference from June 9 to 13, 2018 in Burlington, and

Whereas, Elisabeth Wirsing, the food and lodging program chief at the Vermont Department of Health, is the current NEFDOA President and her Health Department colleagues and she are assuming a major role in preparing for this important national gathering, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly welcomes to Vermont the Association of Food & Drug Officials' 122 Annual Educational Conference, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Association of Food and Drug Officials.