

NO. R-66. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONGRATULATES  
OUTRIGHT VERMONT ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY.

(H.C.R.43)

Offered by: Representatives Lippert of Hinesburg, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Donovan of Burlington, Fisher of Lincoln, Grad of Moretown, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Larson of Burlington, Lorber of Burlington, Marek of Newfane, McCullough of Williston, Mitchell of Barnard, Moran of Wardsboro, Nease of Johnson, Pellett of Chester, Pugh of S. Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Webb of Shelburne, Wizowaty of Burlington and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, Outright Vermont was established in 1989, following the release of a national survey documenting high levels of depression and suicide among gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual, and questioning (GLBTQ) youth, and

Whereas, the fundamental mission of Outright Vermont is to provide educational and outreach support services for these youngsters, and

Whereas, Outright Vermont has created many program services to fulfill the organization's vital mission, including the inauguration of a statewide toll-free support line in 1991, and it convened a conference in Montpelier in 1994 for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth, and

Whereas, in 1995, an HIV prevention program was initiated and, in 1996, transsexual and questioning youth were fully incorporated into the organization's target audience, and

Whereas, in 1998, a pivotal year for the organization, Outright Vermont hosted its first substance-free pride ball at Burlington City Hall, hired its first educational director, and increased the number of gay-straight alliances to 12, and

Whereas, in 2000, during the height of the controversy over civil unions, Outright Vermont's office was subjected to protest marches, and the organization received hate mail, and

Whereas, Outright Vermont was not deterred and proceeded with its mission of supporting GLBTQ youth, and

Whereas, a pivotal institutional development for Outright Vermont was the launching in 2005 of weekly Friday night support groups and Saturday social evenings, and

Whereas, in 2006, the Queer Youth Fund awarded Outright Vermont a major grant to continue and expand its operations, and

Whereas, in 2007, Outright Vermont hosted its first gay-straight alliance conference at the University of Vermont and, in 2008, it started a new statewide visibility campaign known as Vermont Youth StandOUT, and

Whereas, in 2009, Outright Vermont remains strongly committed to working to improve the lives of GLBTQ youth, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Outright Vermont on its 20th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Outright Vermont in Burlington.