

**No. R-142. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the organizers of the 2009 St. Johnsbury Maple Sugar Festival.**

(S.C.R.18)

By Senators Choate and Kitchel,

By Representatives Reis of St. Johnsbury and South of St. Johnsbury,

*Whereas*, the maple sugaring tradition uses a technique that has remained unchanged for centuries, and this late-winter pastime dates back to the native tribes of New England, and

*Whereas*, Caledonia County is home to numerous sugarmakers with a substantial positive impact on both the local and state economies, and those sugarmakers added nearly \$25,000,000 to the Vermont economy in 2008, and

*Whereas*, in 1915 Maple Grove Farms was established in St. Johnsbury as the result of the candy-making abilities and enterprising spirits of Helen Gray and Ethel McLaren, and to this day it remains the largest packager of maple syrup and manufacturer of maple candy in the global marketplace, earning St. Johnsbury the title “Maple Capital of the World,” and

*Whereas*, until 1987 the community of St. Johnsbury annually celebrated the maple sugaring season with special festivities, and

*Whereas*, after a 22-year hiatus, the St. Johnsbury Maple Festival is being revived and will feature a celebration of maple sugaring including a sugar-on-snow party, scientific and historical exhibits, competitions for carrying sap buckets, syrup tasting, wood chopping, a live demonstration

sugarhouse, and a pancake breakfast with the maple syrup flowing freely, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the organizers of the 2009 St. Johnsbury Maple Sugar Festival for reviving this historic Caledonia County tradition, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Town Manager Mike Welch, St. Johnsbury Works Director Linda Fogg, and the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce.