

No. R-219. Joint resolution designating October 2009 as health care career awareness month.

(J.R.S.34)

By Senators Lyons and Racine,

Whereas, quality health care services are of great importance to all Vermonters, and

Whereas, Vermont's aging population is demanding more health care services, and

Whereas, the similarly aging population of health care professionals and other health care workers could place a strain on the delivery of health care services in the state with impacts on Vermont's economy and quality of life, and

Whereas, there may be a lack of awareness among younger persons and adults seeking second careers of the excellent health care career opportunities in Vermont and of the flexibility, excellent pay, security and benefits that jobs in this field can offer, and

Whereas, it is imperative that health care professionals be attracted to the state's rural areas where there will be increasingly disproportionate challenges to health care access without the infusion of new health care professionals, and

Whereas, it would be most advantageous to the state of Vermont if a coordinated effort is undertaken to disseminate information about career opportunities in the health care field, and

Whereas, in order to meet this important public policy objective, members of the health care workforce development partnership, a team of professionals working with Vermont's workforce development council, are collaborating on long-term solutions to sustain Vermont's health care workforce, and

Whereas, greater public knowledge of the need to attract health care professionals to Vermont is in everyone's best interest, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates October 2009 as health care career awareness month, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the director of the University of Vermont College of Medicine's Office of Primary Care and AHEC Program, Elizabeth Cote, in Burlington.