

No. R-343. House concurrent resolution congratulating the League of Women Voters on its 90th anniversary.

(H.C.R.245)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, in 1920, Carrie Chapman Catt, a leader in the hard-fought and ultimately successful campaign for women's suffrage, which culminated in the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, founded the League of Women Voters to educate newly enfranchised women on the vital importance of their participating in civic affairs, including studying major policy issues and voting in elections for public office, and

Whereas, the organization welcomed men to its ranks in 1974, and

Whereas, the mission of the League of Women Voters states that it is “a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy,” and

Whereas, the League of Women Voters does not endorse candidates for public office and believes in representative government by working for good government through the enactment of sound campaign finance, voting, and election laws, and

Whereas, forums that bring together elected leaders and the public for civil discourse on major topics, such as land use and education funding, are an

important vehicle for the League to engender the public's respect for and trust in government, and

Whereas, the League of Women Voters is constantly reviewing and studying the issues of the day to keep its advocacy relevant and informed, and

Whereas, in its advocacy role, the League of Women Voters supports: the protection of our environment through strict standards for air and water; fairness in financing public education; universal access to health care; the use of renewable energy sources; and civics education in our nation's schools, and

Whereas, in 2010, the League of Women Voters, along with its 900 state and local leagues nationwide, is celebrating the 90th anniversary of its establishment, marking an important occasion in the history of women's official acceptance into the American political process, and the birthday of a leading national civics education organization, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the League of Women Voters on its 90th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Catherine Rader, President of the League of Women Voters of Vermont, and to the League's national headquarters in Washington, D.C.