

No. R-176. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Peace Corps on half a century of exemplary public service.

(H.C.R.128)

Offered by: Representatives Haas of Rochester, Howrigan of Fairfield, Scheuermann of Stowe, Andrews of Rutland City, Bartholomew of Hartland, Batchelor of Derby, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Burke of Brattleboro, Campion of Bennington, Cheney of Norwich, Conquest of Newbury, Courcelle of Rutland City, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Degree of St. Albans City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donovan of Burlington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Ellis of Waterbury, Evans of Essex, Fisher of Lincoln, Font-Russell of Rutland City, Frank of Underhill, French of Shrewsbury, French of Randolph, Gilbert of Fairfax, Head of South Burlington, Higley of Lowell, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Johnson of South Hero, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Komline of Dorset, Krebs of South Hero, Lanpher of Vergennes, Leriche of Hardwick, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Mook of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, Partridge of Windham, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Sharpe of Bristol, Stevens of Waterbury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sweaney of Windsor, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Toll of Danville, Trieber of Rockingham, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Woodward of Johnson, Wright of Burlington, Yantachka of Charlotte and Young of Albany

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Ashe, Ayer, Carris, Fox, Giard, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Nitka and Starr

Whereas, in 1960, presidential candidate John F. Kennedy challenged students to work abroad in less-developed countries as a new way to promote a more peaceful world, and

Whereas, on March 1, 1961, as the nation's new President, he issued an executive order establishing the Peace Corps, and

Whereas, the mission of the Peace Corps is threefold: to help "people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women,"

“promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served,” and “promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans,” and

Whereas, during the past 50 years, over 200,000 Americans have proudly served as Peace Corps volunteers in 139 countries, and

Whereas, the geographic scope of Peace Corps programs is broad, including Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Pacific Islands, and in more recent years Eastern Europe, and

Whereas, the range of Peace Corps assignments includes agriculture, education, health and HIV/Aids awareness, business development, the environment, youth development, and information technology, and

Whereas, although the Peace Corps was initially envisioned as an international public service program for young Americans, seven percent of the volunteers are over 50 and have included Lillian Carter, the mother of former President Jimmy Carter, who joined at age 68, and

Whereas, today, over 8,500 volunteers serve in 77 nations, and Vermont is well represented, and

Whereas, in 2010, on a per-capita basis, Vermont had the largest number of Peace Corps volunteers (59); the Burlington–South Burlington area was ranked second nationally among metropolitan areas sending volunteers; and both the University of Vermont and Middlebury College are in 2011 prodigious

contributors of Peace Corps volunteers for schools of their respective size, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Peace Corps on half a century of exemplary public service benefiting peoples around the world, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Peace Corps Director Aaron S. Williams and to the Peace Corps representative at the University of Vermont.