

No. R-200. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Lake Champlain Committee on winning the Green Mountain Environmental Leadership Awards' 2011 Citizen Science Award.

(S.C.R.21)

By Senators Lyons, Ashe, Ayer, Baruth, Benning, Brock, Campbell, Carris, Cummings, Doyle, Flory, Fox, Galbraith, Giard, Hartwell, Illuzzi, Kitchel, Kittell, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Miller, Mullin, Nitka, Pollina, Sears, Snelling, Starr, Westman and White

By Representatives Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski, Deen of Westminster, Donovan of Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Larson of Burlington, Lenos of Shelburne, Macaig of Williston, McCullough of Williston, Munger of South Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Stuart of Brattleboro, Webb of Shelburne and Wright of Burlington

Whereas, long before 1968, when Act 333 severely restricted the presence of outdoor advertising, Vermonters have sought to maximize the beauty of this special state, and Act 333 was an impetus for the adoption in 1970 of Act 250, Vermont's comprehensive land use law, and

Whereas, these laws spurred a great wave of environmental activism in Vermont that continues unabated into the second decade of the 21st century, and

Whereas, many individuals and statewide and local organizations are dedicated to creating a more environmentally hospitable Vermont for this and future generations, and

Whereas, the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain and FreePressMedia have jointly established the Green Mountain Environmental Leadership Awards to honor environmental innovators and leaders, and

Whereas, nominations were solicited during January, and the judges announced a winner in each of three categories at an April 14 presentation at ECHO, a date selected for its proximity to Earth Day, and

Whereas, the Citizen Science Award was established to honor “an individual or organization showing the value of determination” and emphasizes “grassroots persistence to address a continuing environmental challenge,” and

Whereas, the winner in this category was the Lake Champlain Committee, as reported in an April 16 *Burlington Free Press* article, “for its volunteer-driven efforts to test the lake’s shoreline for toxic algae blooms,” and

Whereas, this well-deserved honor recognizes an organization that has worked diligently to restore and improve the lake’s water quality, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulate the Lake Champlain Committee on winning the Green Mountain Environmental Leadership Awards’ 2011 Citizen Science Award, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Lake Champlain Committee, to the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, and to FreePressMedia.