

**No. R-56. House concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont Works for Women on its 25th anniversary.**

(H.C.R.26)

Offered by: Representatives Wizowaty of Burlington, Ancel of Calais, Bartholomew of Hartland, Batchelor of Derby, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Bouchard of Colchester, Branagan of Georgia, Browning of Arlington, Burke of Brattleboro, Campion of Bennington, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Cheney of Norwich, Christie of Hartford, Clark of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Condon of Colchester, Conquest of Newbury, Consejo of Sheldon, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Cross of Winooski, Dakin of Chester, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Ellis of Waterbury, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Fay of St. Johnsbury, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Gallivan of Chittenden, Goodwin of Weston, Grad of Moretown, Greshin of Warren, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Heath of Westford, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Montpelier, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Johnson of South Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Klein of East Montpelier, Koch of Barre Town, Komline of Dorset, Krebs of South Hero, Krowinski of Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Lippert of Hinesburg, Macaig of Williston, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCarthy of St. Albans City, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Michelsen of Hardwick, Miller of Shaftsbury, Mitchell of Fairfax, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Mrowicki of Putney, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Pearson of Burlington, Peltz of Woodbury, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ralston of Middlebury, Ram of Burlington, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Smith of Morristown, Smith of New Haven, South of St. Johnsbury, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sweaney of Windsor, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Toleno of Brattleboro, Toll of Danville, Townsend of Randolph, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Turner of Milton, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Webb of Shelburne, Weed of Enosburgh, Wilson of Manchester, Winters of Williamstown, Woodward of Johnson, Wright of Burlington, Yantachka of Charlotte, Young of Glover, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, Vermont Works for Women was founded in 1987 as Northern New England Tradeswomen to help women enter, advance, and remain in the skilled trades, and

Whereas, in 2000, Northern New England Tradeswomen's mission was expanded to include training, educating, supporting, and advocating for women and girls exploring and pursuing opportunities in trades and technical fields, including the Women Can Do conference, the Rosie's Girls program, and an information technology program known as Step IT Up, and

Whereas, the organization's mission was broadened again in 2005 to provide for new programs, including Step Up to Law Enforcement, and

Whereas, in 2007, Northern New England Tradeswomen became Vermont Works for Women and, in 2009, it articulated the current mission as helping women and girls recognize their potential and explore, pursue, and excel in work that leads to economic independence, and

Whereas, in July 2011, Vermont Works for Women joined with Girls Move Mountains to establish a program of back-country activities, and

Whereas, Vermont Works for Women's educational activities for incarcerated women, including the modular home project and a program for women in transition from prison, have reduced recidivism rates to one-fifth the state average, and

Whereas, Vermont Works for Women continues to educate women and girls from all over the state from diverse backgrounds about nontraditional career opportunities they may never have considered, and

Whereas, the National Association of Mayors, the City of Burlington, the Vermont Governor's Commission on Women, the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the John Merck Fund have each recognized Vermont Works for Women's quarter-century of accomplishments, and

Whereas, as part of its 25th anniversary celebration, Vermont Works for Women collaborated with the Vermont Folklife Center to create an exhibit called Labor of Love, touring the state, including the State House cafeteria, featuring stories and photos of women in many nontraditional occupations, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Vermont Works for Women on its 25th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Works for Women.