

No. R-170. Senate concurrent resolution designating September 2013 as River Green Up Month.

(S.C.R.24)

By Committee on Natural Resources and Energy,

Whereas, in recognition of the role a concerted citizens' effort could contribute to beautifying Vermont's landscape, Governor Deane Davis issued an executive proclamation designating April 18, 1970 as "Green Up Day," which Vermonters were urged to observe "by volunteering two hours of their time to rid the highways of litter and to green up their neighborhoods," and

Whereas, on March 10, 1970, the General Assembly adopted Joint Resolution No. R-79 in support of the Governor's proclamation, and

Whereas, the first Green Up Day, during which the Interstate Highway System was closed for three hours, was an enormously successful event, and

Whereas, Green Up Day now takes place on the first Saturday in May, and

Whereas, Green Up's mission is to promote the stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the viability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the benefits of a litter-free environment, and

Whereas, on May 1, Vermont's water levels are traditionally high and the water temperatures are low, making it difficult to perform efficient river cleanup efforts safely, resulting in few waterway cleanup efforts on Green Up Day, and

Whereas, designated waterway cleanup events are dependent on the variations in the weather, and dates should be chosen based on the best conditions for efficiency and safety, and

Whereas, river basin organizations' cleanup events are scattered throughout the summer months without statewide coordination or support, and

Whereas, during the month of September, water levels are usually low and temperatures are warm and colleges and schools are in session, and by involving youths, there is an opportunity for education regarding the importance of clean rivers and lakes, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates September 2013 as River Green Up Month, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor and to the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources.