

No. R190. House concurrent resolution honoring the 2013 winners of the Working Forests Essay Contest.

(H.C.R.138)

Offered by: Representatives Gallivan of Chittenden, Clarkson of Woodstock, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Kilmartin of Newport City, Marcotte of Coventry, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, for decades, much of the Vermont forestland was not properly managed, and now, parcelization is occurring in a way that is permanently altering the Vermont landscape, and

Whereas, the future of Vermont's forest products industry will be the responsibility of the state's upcoming generations, and

Whereas, it is important to encourage young Vermonters to focus on the need to manage Vermont's forests in a sustainable and ecologically responsible manner that preserves the State's rural landscape and the vitality of the State's forest products industry, and

Whereas, an exciting opportunity for Vermont high school students to gain a better appreciation of Vermont forestry and the forest products industry is through their participation in an essay contest that the Vermont Woodlands Association, the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, the French Foundation, and *Northern Woodlands* magazine jointly sponsor, and

Whereas, the contestants were instructed as follows: "As the next generation of forest stewards, we would like you to tell us, in 600 words or less, why working forests in Vermont are important and how they contribute to the quality of life of all Vermonters," and

Whereas, Kia Amirkiaee of Woodstock Union High School was awarded first prize for her essay "Vermonters and Forests: A Symbiotic Relationship" and won a \$1,000.00 prize, and

Whereas, the second- and third-prize winners were Ben Dillner of North Country Union High School and Nicholas Sweet of Rutland High School, and they were presented awards of \$750.00 and \$500.00 respectively, and

Whereas, each of these students was honored on April 6 at a ceremony conducted during the Vermont Woodlands Association annual meeting, held at Vermont Technical College in Randolph, and

Whereas, the first prize essay was published in the spring 2013 issue of *Northern Woodlands* magazine, and

Whereas, the future of Vermont's forests is a timely topic for legislative reflection on the first Friday in May, which is Arbor Day, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the winners of the 2013 Working Forests Essay Contest, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the students honored in this resolution.