

**No. R-227. Senate concurrent resolution honoring Charles Browne for his extraordinary leadership of the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium.**

(S.C.R.26)

By Senators Kitchel and Benning,

By Representatives Fay of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Michelsen of Hardwick, Quimby of Concord, South of St. Johnsbury, and Toll of Danville,

*Whereas*, Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium Executive Director Charlie Browne is a museum administrator and environmental educator who is respected both in Vermont and nationally, and

*Whereas*, he graduated from Harvard College as a government major, earned a master's degree in science teaching from Antioch College, and first arrived at the Fairbanks in 1978 as an eager graduate student intern, and

*Whereas*, the Fairbanks and Charlie Browne were an ideal pairing, as he has remained for the past 35 years, bringing new vitality and excitement to this venerable natural history institution which was established in 1889, and

*Whereas*, Charlie Browne supplemented his educational background by earning a certificate from the Getty Leadership Institute for Museum Management, and

*Whereas*, in 1992, the Board of Trustees selected Charlie Browne as the new Executive Director of the Fairbanks, inaugurating a 21-year tenure in this position, and

*Whereas*, under his leadership, the Fairbanks Museum has retained its historic ambience and continued as an important weather forecasting center while introducing exciting new exhibits, and

*Whereas*, one of the newest additions to the museum is the OmniGlobe, a 60-inch-diameter sphere that can display animations of the planet's natural and political trends, and

*Whereas*, Charlie Browne was instrumental in the major overhaul and modernization of the museum's astronomy exhibits, including the installation of the digitally sophisticated Kappa projection system in the Lyman Spitzer, Jr. Planetarium and the opening of the new Vinton Space Science Gallery, and

*Whereas*, he has held major leadership positions with the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance and the American Alliance of Museums, and

*Whereas*, after a remarkable career as an environmental educator and museum administrator, Charlie Browne will retire from his position as the Fairbanks' Executive Director, leaving the museum set to continue its role as one of Vermont's leading educational institutions, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly honors Charles Browne for his extraordinary leadership of the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Charles Browne at the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium in St. Johnsbury.