

No. R-470. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Arts Council on its 50th anniversary and designating 2015 as the Year of the Arts in Vermont.

(H.C.R.354)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, pursuant to Act 170 of 1965, the General Assembly designated the Vermont Council on the Arts, now known as the Vermont Arts Council (Council), as the official recipient of State and federal funds to disburse to arts education, performances, and various creative endeavors, and

Whereas, for 50 years, the Council has fulfilled its promise to Vermont citizens and visitors, nurturing hundreds of arts organizations, thousands of artists, and fostering public art installations in State facilities in all 14 counties, and

Whereas, the Council has awarded more than \$20 million in support of arts activities, and

Whereas, collaborating with the Agencies of Agriculture, of Commerce and Community Development, of Education, and of Transportation; nonprofits, including the Governor's Institute on the Arts, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, the Vermont Folklife Center, the Vermont Humanities Council, and the Vermont Council on Rural Development; and institutions of higher education, the Council has maximized its resources, and

Whereas, the Council's grants and services to the arts sector have fostered a robust creative economy that mirrors Vermont's quality of life, nurtures student interest in the arts, and contributes significantly to State and local revenues, and

Whereas, according to 2012 U.S. Census data, Vermont ranks third overall for artists as a percentage of the workforce, second for fine artists and writers, and eighth for musicians and photographers, and

Whereas, helping Vermont's citizenry to understand the importance of creativity at home, work, school, and in the community is vital to the success of Vermont's economy, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Arts Council on its 50th anniversary and designates 2015 as the Year of the Arts in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Board of Trustees of the Vermont Arts Council.