State of Vermont
House of Representatives

Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 29

House concurrent resolution honoring Robert Klein for his contributions to land conservation and ecological diversity preservation in Vermont

Offered by: Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Whereas, in the late 1970s, the Vermont Natural Resources Council hired Bob Klein to survey natural communities in the state, and

Whereas, having earned a master's degree in environmental management, he was well trained to assume this important ecological inquiry, and

Whereas, in 1979, the Nature Conservancy's Vermont Chapter hired Bob Klein as its first executive director and first paid staff person, and

Whereas, this hiring began a 34-year odyssey to "preserve the diversity of life on earth" as it exists in Vermont, and

Whereas, during his tenure, the Nature Conservancy in Vermont has either "purchased or helped to conserve nearly 100,000 acres of ecologically important land in every corner of Vermont," and

Whereas, the Nature Conservancy's Vermont chapter uses private dollars to purchase land, quickly if necessary, often later transferring title to the state while retaining a conservation easement, and it also owns 20,000 acres in 56 natural areas, and

Whereas, the geographic breadth of these land preservation projects has extended from the Northeast Kingdom, where the organization was involved in the preservation of the West Mountain Wildlife Management Area, former Champion Lands, to western Rutland County where it acquired over 4,000 acres that include 15 distinct natural communities, and

Whereas, the size of the land deals under Bob Klein's watch have ranged from the 120-acre Chickering Bog in Calais to the 10,000 acres of the Burt Forest surrounding Mount Mansfield, and

Whereas, Bob Klein helped establish the non-game wildlife and heritage program which is now under the jurisdiction of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, as well as a native plant nursery scheduled to be transferred to Green Mountain College, and

Whereas, after 34 years as Executive Director of the Vermont Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, overseeing many successful land preservation projects, and the staff's growth to 14 persons, including scientists and land stewards, Bob Klein will retire from this position in April 2013, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Robert Klein for his contributions to land conservation and ecological diversity preservation in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Bob Klein at the Vermont Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

Shapleigh Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the House

Attested to:

Philip B. Scott
President of the Senate

Donald G. Milne
Clerk, House of Representatives

H.C.R. 29 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
HONORING ROBERT KLEIN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAND CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGICAL DIVERSITY PRESERVATION IN VERMONT

Offered by: Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

_____, 2013

Adopted on the Part of the House

_____
Assistant Clerk

SENATE CHAMBER

_____, 2013

Adopted on the Part of the Senate in concurrence

_____
Assistant Secretary