

No. R-503. House concurrent resolution designating April 28, 2016 as Vermont Water Stewardship Day.

(H.C.R.349)

Offered by: Representative Deen of Westminster

Whereas, although Vermont remains a national leader in progressive environmental action, the State is confronting major water pollution problems, including contamination in Lake Champlain, where precious ecosystems are being damaged, and

Whereas, all of the State's waters, be they ponds, lakes, streams, or rivers are encountering increased pollution levels, and

Whereas, water pollution affects not only Vermonters but also persons residing downstream from the State's waters,

Whereas, those living along the St. Lawrence River see water pollution that originates, at least in part, from Lake Memphremagog and Lake Champlain, and individuals with homes along or recreating in or on Long Island Sound encounter water pollution that can be partially attributed to the Connecticut River, and

Whereas, water stewardship and the active role Vermont students can play in protecting the State's waters are not assigned curriculum subjects in the majority of Vermont schools, and

Whereas, nor does Vermont observe a day to educate its students on the topic of water stewardship and the pollution that can ensue when the waters of the State are not properly safeguarded, and

Whereas, designating April 28, 2016 as Vermont Water Stewardship Day, for the purpose of educating the State's students about the importance of water stewardship and ways to reduce water pollution, is a commendable proposal that students Ashley Morrill and Maria Brosseau have developed and that deserves adoption, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates April 28, 2016 as Vermont Water Stewardship Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Education, to Ashley Morrill, and to Maria Brosseau.