

NO. R-110. House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding work of child care providers in Vermont.

(H.C.R.71)

Offered by: Representatives Pugh of S. Burlington, Andrews of Rutland City, Botzow of Pownal, Clark of Vergennes, Clerkin of Hartford, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Gilbert of Fairfax, Haas of Rochester, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Maier of Middlebury, Marcotte of Coventry, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney, Nease of Johnson, O'Donnell of Vernon, Orr of Charlotte, Pearce of Richford, Perley of Enosburg, Shand of Weathersfield, Smith of Mendon, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Wilson of Manchester, Zenie of Colchester and Zuckerman of Burlington

Offered by: Senator Racine

Whereas, today's young children are tomorrow's voters, workers, taxpayers, and parents, and

Whereas, a good start helps ensure both a child's and Vermont's future prosperity, and

Whereas, science tells us that early experiences establish the architecture of a child's developing brain, and nurturing and individualized interactions with adults at home and in the community build a strong foundation for future growth and development, and

Whereas, the quality of early childhood experiences establishes either a sturdy or a fragile foundation for all development that follows, and

Whereas, child development is community development as well as economic development, as healthy, capable children are the building blocks of a solid and productive society, and

Whereas, the 5,000 child care providers in Vermont are essential to the state's economic growth, and they contribute to the creation or support of 2,232 indirect jobs, and

Whereas, although 85 percent of a child's core brain structure is formed by the age of four years, less than nine percent of public investments in education and development are made by that time, and

Whereas, we must work together to meet their needs to ensure that all Vermont children grow into solid community members and active participants in our economy, and

Whereas, concerned Vermonters will gather at the state house on March 18, 2009 to inform their state legislators about the importance of making high-quality early childhood care and education services accessible and affordable to all Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the outstanding work of child care providers in Vermont who are visiting the state house on March 18, 2009, which is Early Childhood Day at the legislature, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the sponsoring organizations of the Kids Are Priority One Early

Childhood Coalition, including Voices for Vermont's Children, Windham Child Care, Vermont Family Network, Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children, Mama Says, and the Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council.