

No. R-139. House concurrent resolution celebrating the success of the education-based after-school programs in Vermont.

(H.C.R.88)

Offered by: Representatives Mrowicki of Putney, Burke of Brattleboro, Conquest of Newbury, Donovan of Burlington, Frank of Underhill, Jewett of Ripton, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lippert of Hinesburg, Malcolm of Pawlet, Milkey of Brattleboro, O'Brien of Richmond, Obuchowski of Rockingham, Peltz of Woodbury, Rodgers of Glover, Sharpe of Bristol, Smith of Mendon, Stevens of Waterbury, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Wizowaty of Burlington and Zenie of Colchester

Whereas, in the state of Vermont, more than 15,000 children participate in education-based after-school programs, and

Whereas, the time and money invested in these after-school programs support children's safety, health, and social development, and

Whereas, after-school programs provide safety and support for children during their most vulnerable hours of the day, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., which are the peak hours for juvenile crime and experimentation, and

Whereas, the availability of high-quality after-school programming for children while parents work contributes to the economic health of families and communities and businesses, and

Whereas, when such programs are not available in a community, parents miss an average of eight days of work per year, and

Whereas, on average, families spend \$22.00 per week per child for after-school programs, and

Whereas, based on test scores and reports from teachers, participation in after-school programs markedly improves students' academic performance,

sense of accomplishment, regularity of school attendance, and enjoyment of the learning process, and

Whereas, after-school programs can reduce students' obesity, and

Whereas, the vast majority of Americans across all demographic groups support the proposition that youth should have access to organized and safe activities during the late afternoon hours while parents remain at work, and

Whereas, representatives of after-school programs throughout Vermont are visiting the state house on April 2, 2009, and their role in supplementing and enhancing our children's education deserves commendation, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the success of the education-based after-school programs in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Partnership for Afterschool Excellence.