

No. R-355. House concurrent resolution honoring family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's and related diseases on the 2010 Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the state house.

(H.C.R.256)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, Alzheimer's disease is a devastating form of dementia that deprives individuals of life memories and their ability to function independently in society, and

Whereas, despite the growing awareness of this malady, from which large numbers of mostly older Americans suffer, no medical cure has yet been discovered, and

Whereas, Alzheimer's disease incapacitates or greatly diminishes its victims' cognitive and motor skills, and

Whereas, families of Alzheimer's victims also are greatly affected as the families reach the inevitable decision of implementing an around-the-clock home care plan or institutionalizing their loved ones, and

Whereas, although the hoped-for medical breakthrough to treat Alzheimer's disease is still elusive, many programs have been developed to support those with Alzheimer's disease and their families, and

Whereas, in Vermont, these services include adult day programs that provide constructive activities and companionship for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, respite programs that offer essential intervals of relief for individuals who take care of a person with Alzheimer's disease on a continual

basis, and mental health clinicians who are especially trained to assist older persons with age-related mental health challenges, and

Whereas, in order to educate legislators on the complex issues related to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, family and professional caregivers and service support specialists are gathering at the state house on February 23, 2010, and

Whereas, these individuals perform truly heroic roles either in helping loved ones who have Alzheimer's disease or as professionals working on a broader community basis, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly welcomes all of the providers of Alzheimer's disease support services on Alzheimer's Awareness Day, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the organizers of the 2010 Alzheimer's Awareness Day.