

No. R-290. House concurrent resolution designating January 20, 2012 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House.

(H.C.R.243)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, Alzheimer's is one of society's most tragic illnesses as it causes individuals to lose their life memories and their ability to perform intricate tasks and recognizing family members, and

Whereas, Alzheimer's only worsens over time, but the disease is not an instant killer, but can linger for a number of years, and

Whereas, Alzheimer's has an extremely emotional impact on friends and families who are forced to witness the deterioration of an individual's personality, and family members often sadly conclude they have no option for their loved one except institutionalization, and

Whereas, although medical researchers are advancing their knowledge of Alzheimer's, the cure that is fervently desired has yet to emerge, and

Whereas, obtaining a more definitive picture of Alzheimer's is essential to any successful strategy to combat the disease, and

Whereas Vermont's State Plan on Dementia includes a recommendation to implement both the Caregiver and Cognitive Impairment Modules in the existing state Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey, and

Whereas, in 1999, the General Assembly enacted Act 57, establishing the commission on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to "advise state agencies on matters of state policy relating to Alzheimer's disease and other dementia-related disorders," and

Whereas, on January 20, 2012, members of the commission and others working to improve the lives of those with Alzheimer's will be visiting the state house to educate the legislature about this serious disease, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly acknowledges the many Vermonters living with Alzheimer's disease and designates January 20, 2012 as 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 commission on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and to the Vermont chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.