

No. R-15. House concurrent resolution honoring Donald Vickers for his career role assisting students to achieve their education goals beyond high school.

(H.C.R.9)

Offered by: Representative Heath of Westford

Whereas, for four decades, the ability of Vermont students to get career and educational counseling and financing for their higher education has been superbly facilitated through the efforts of Don Vickers and his colleagues at the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC), and

Whereas, Don Vickers graduated from Johnson State College and remained at his alma mater as director of financial aid, placement, and faculty housing, and

Whereas, in 1971, he became VSAC's first director of state grant programs, and

Whereas, over the last 42 years, Don Vickers has focused on the VSAC mission to ensure that all Vermonters have the necessary information and financial resources to pursue their education goals beyond high school, and

Whereas, in 1988, the VSAC board appointed him as the organization's interim executive director; his status was made permanent in 1990; and in 1997 he was named the organization's president and chief executive officer, and

Whereas, during Don Vickers' more than a quarter-century of leading VSAC, the organization achieved many innovative milestones including creation of the nation's first nondegree grant program to allow adult students to take a single course to gain training before re-entering the classroom or the workforce and including the establishment of the VSAC Resource Center and Library, and

Whereas, he has served on national higher education financing panels, and

Whereas, Don Vickers successfully led VSAC through a difficult federally directed transition and downsizing, and

Whereas, he capably chaired the Essex Town School Board, and

Whereas, in recognition of his many contributions to higher education, Don Vickers will be the 2013 recipient of the New England Board of Higher Education's prestigious Eleanor M. McMahon Award for Lifetime Achievement, and

Whereas, in June 2013, Don Vickers will retire from VSAC to his farm in the town of Georgia, where he hopes to work the land and continue his local civic activities, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Donald Vickers for his career role in assisting students to achieve their education goals beyond high school, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Don Vickers and to VSAC headquarters in Winooski.