

No. R-28. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Richmond Land Trust on its 25th anniversary

(H.C.R.10)

Offered by: Representative O'Brien of Richmond

Whereas, in 1987, Richmond citizens, who were concerned that encroaching suburbanization might result in this historically agricultural community losing "its rural character, natural resources, scenic beauty and unique spirit," established the Richmond Land Trust (RLT), and

Whereas, the organization's mission is "to preserve the rural character and quality of life in Richmond, Vermont, and its surrounding communities through land conservation, historic preservation, land stewardship, and community service and education," and

Whereas, the RLT has: "led the effort to conserve approximately 650 acres of Richmond farms, river banks, woodlands and recreation areas"; "helped save the former Universalist Church and the Elementary School"; and enhanced existing and created new hiking and canoeing opportunities, and

Whereas, especially impressive has been the role of the RLT in cooperation with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) in preserving a site consisting of three historic farmsteads, two monitor barns, and 1,000 acres of surrounding farmland and forestland, and

Whereas, the West Monitor Barn has been beautifully restored and serves as VYCC headquarters and features a community events space; and the included farmland is now home to a community supported agriculture fresh produce service, and

Whereas, in celebration of the RLT's 25th anniversary, in October 2012 the organization hosted a bicycle "Tour de Preserves" and a party at the Bridge Street Cafe in Richmond, and

Whereas, the founding members of the Richmond Land Trust included Gary Bressor, Jeff Forward, Ted Lyman, Virginia Clarke, Steve Libby, John Cohn, Warren Beeken, Dave Young, Chris Fichtel, Kate Barnard, Tom Howard, and Chip Bissell, and

Whereas, the current board of directors of the RLT, including Christa Kemp, Brad Elliott, Wright Preston, Ted Lyman, Lou Borie, Francis Churchill, Larry Copp, Jim Feinson, John Hildebeitel, Greg Lutchko, Dan Martin, Fritz Martin, and Judy McVickar, is now enthusiastically leading RLT into a second quarter century of outstanding conservation work in Richmond, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Richmond Land Trust on its 25th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Richmond Land Trust.