

**No. R-23. House concurrent resolution designating January 2015 as National Mentoring Month in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.12)

Offered by: Representatives Dakin of Chester, Bartholomew of Hartland, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Bissonnette of Winooski, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Condon of Colchester, Connor of Fairfield, Conquest of Newbury, Cupoli of Rutland City, Davis of Washington, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donahue of Northfield, Fields of Bennington, French of Randolph, Gage of Rutland City, Graham of Williamstown, Greshin of Warren, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Higley of Lowell, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Krowinski of Burlington, Lenex of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Long of Newfane, McCormack of Burlington, McCoy of Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Murphy of Fairfax, Nuovo of Middlebury, Poirier of Barre City, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Sheldon of Middlebury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Townsend of South Burlington

Offered by: Senators Bray, Campion, MacDonald, and White

Whereas, relationships with caring mentors offer youth valuable support to guide them toward making positive and healthy life choices, and

Whereas, the mentoring programs schools and youth organizations offer are effective at increasing student attendance and academic performance, and

Whereas, mentored youth are less likely to skip school, start using drugs and alcohol, or engage in violence, and are more likely to attend college, and

Whereas, these young people exhibit improved self-esteem, have better relationships with family members and peers, and feel a greater connectedness to their community and schools, and

Whereas, partnerships between businesses, schools, and other youth service organizations and mentoring programs are an effective way for businesses to support youth within their communities, and

Whereas, collaborative mentoring programs that the entire community supports are able to serve more youth, and

Whereas, since 2013, Mobius has served as Vermont's mentoring partnership organization providing support for youth mentoring programs and volunteer mentors throughout the State, and

Whereas, Mobius with other public and private organizations are committed to working to increase the number of quality mentoring matches statewide, and

Whereas, hundreds of Vermont youth are waiting for mentors, and

Whereas, nationally, January 2015 is being observed as the 14th National Mentoring Month, a time dedicated to an outreach campaign focusing national attention on the need for mentors to ensure brighter futures for young people, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates January 2015 as National Mentoring Month in Vermont, and be it further

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