

No. R-259. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Wesley E. Ward of Danville on his being named the 2015 Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year.

(S.C.R.28)

By Senators Kitchel and Benning,

By Representatives Toll of Danville, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Lawrence of Lyndon, Quimby of Concord, Troiano of Stannard, and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,

Whereas, in 1975, Wes Ward graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy, and following service in the U.S. Army, he earned a business degree from Lyndon State College, and

Whereas, in 1981, he established Wes Ward Auto Repair in St. Johnsbury that for over three decades has provided superior service to its many customers, and he is also the proprietor of the Westward Equipment Service, and

Whereas, on four occasions, in 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2009, the Vermont AAA presented Wes Ward that organization's Auto Shop of the Year Award, and

Whereas, as the father of two daughters, Lisa and Rachel, and the stepfather of Katelyn, children's lives are of great personal importance to Wes Ward, and he works actively on their behalf as a respected guardian ad litem, admired school mentor, and longtime supporter of the Santa Fund, and

Whereas, he is a St. Johnsbury Athenaeum & Art Gallery trustee, and

Whereas, his proven leadership has promoted the good works of the St. Johnsbury Kiwanis Club, and he served as its president in 2009, and

Whereas, that same year, Wes Ward's long association with the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) culminated in his serving as its president, while Vermont and the nation confronted the severe economic challenges of the great recession, and

Whereas, he is a 2009 recipient of the Governor's Community Service Award, and

Whereas, in appreciation of Wes Ward's exemplary leadership, in 2011, the Chamber presented Wes Ward its Ken Clow Memorial Trustee Award, and

Whereas, in recognition of his demonstrated professional integrity and success and superb community leadership, on May 21, 2015, the Chamber surprised Wes Ward by naming him its 2015 Citizen of the Year, and his wife, Paula, helped orchestrate this surprise, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Wesley E. Ward of Danville on his being named the 2015 Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year, *and be it further*

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