No. R-140. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont Technical College on its 150th anniversary and designating April 13, 2017 as Vermont Tech Day.

(S.C.R.13)

By Senators Starr, Ashe, Balint, Baruth, Benning, Branagan, Bray, Brooks, Campion, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Degree, Flory, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Mullin, Nitka, Pearson, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Westman, and White,

Whereas, in 1866, the General Assembly enacted 1866 Acts and Resolves No. 1 "An Act to Establish A State Normal School," constituting and establishing the Orange County Grammar School at Randolph Centre as the Normal School for the State of Vermont, and

Whereas, in 1910, the General Assembly established the Vermont State School of Agriculture at the Randolph location to educate students specializing in agricultural studies, and

Whereas, in 1957, the addition of technical subjects to the curriculum resulted in the school's designation as the Vermont Agricultural and Technical Institute, and

Whereas, in 1962, after becoming a unit of the new Vermont State Colleges system in 1961, the school was renamed Vermont Technical College (VTC), and

Whereas, today, VTC offers diverse curriculums, including advanced manufacturing, aviation, computer science fields, construction management, entrepreneurship, first responder services, health and dental care, renewable energy, sustainable design and construction, transportation, and veterinary care, and

Whereas, the school's enrollment includes full-time students while simultaneously serving adults and employers through continuing education and workforce development programs, and

Whereas, the majority of the students are Vermonters, one-half are Pell Grant eligible, and 45 percent are first-generation college attendees, and

Whereas, VTC graduates experience high job placement rates, graduate with low debt, and earn high salaries, and

Whereas, the faculty provides a practical education and its profession-based experience contributes to the students' long-term success, and

Whereas, the VTC staff fosters a caring community, and

Whereas, the public benefits from VTC services such as the Vermont Small Business Development Center and the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Vermont Technical College on its 150th anniversary and designates April 13, 2017 as Vermont Tech Day, *and be it further*

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