

**No. R-21. House concurrent resolution recognizing the important work of MENTOR Vermont and designating January 23, 2019 as Mentoring Day at the State House.**

(H.C.R.14)

Offered by: Representative Webb of Shelburne

Whereas, the future of Vermont depends on the success of our youths, and

Whereas, mentoring relationships, focused on the volunteer involvement of caring adult mentors, offer youths valuable support to improve their school attendance, academic performance, and postsecondary educational prospects and develop constructive and healthy lifelong habits, and

Whereas, according to MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, one in three youths will grow up without a formal or natural mentor, and

Whereas, mentored youths also exhibit improved resiliency and better relationships with peers and family members and feel greater connectedness to their community and school, and

Whereas, partnerships between businesses, schools, youth service organizations, and mentoring programs allow businesses to effectively support youths within the community, and

Whereas, collaborative mentoring programs that the entire community supports, either locally or statewide, offer greater visibility to mentoring and can serve more youths, and

Whereas, since 2002, January has been designated as National Mentoring Month, a month-long outreach campaign focusing national attention on the need for mentors as well as on how we can work together to increase the number of mentors and assure brighter futures for our young people, and

Whereas, in 2003, the first Vermont mentoring program was inaugurated in Chittenden County, and since 2013, MENTOR Vermont (known as Mobius until October 2018) has facilitated the development of mentoring programs throughout the State, and

Whereas, in 2019, with 140 adult-to-youth mentoring program sites, serving 2,300 mentor pairs, MENTOR Vermont, in collaboration with other mentoring programs, is committed to increasing access to mentoring statewide, and

Whereas, Jim Hyde, the 2018 Vermont Mentor of the Year, has described mentoring as “where magic happens,” and

Whereas, today, January 23, 2019, representatives of the mentoring community are visiting the State House, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the important work of MENTOR Vermont and designates January 23, 2019 as Mentoring Day at the State House.

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