

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 236

House concurrent resolution in memory of Preservation Trust of Vermont Executive Director Paul Alan Bruhn

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, Paul Bruhn graduated from Burlington High School and, following a brief stay at the University of Vermont, earned valuable tutelage in journalism, editing the *Chittenden Magazine*, and

Whereas, in 1974, he served as Patrick Leahy's campaign manager and became his chief of staff in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, in 1980, Paul Bruhn assumed development and leadership of the Preservation Trust of Vermont and stewarded its growth as a force for good across Vermont for the next 39 years, and

Whereas, the Vermont Land Trust awarded him its only Cowbird Award, because of his unique ability to inspire others to assume responsibility for difficult projects he initiated, and

Whereas, in cooperation with U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, he created a national program supporting historic gathering places throughout the country, now known as "Bruhn Grants," and

Whereas, public arts spaces were made possible and country stores preserved, in large part, because of Paul Bruhn's energy and enthusiasm, and

Whereas, in 1986, Paul Bruhn was one of the leaders who created the Vermont Housing and Conservation Coalition, and the outgrowth has resulted in a \$358 million Vermont investment in constructing homes and preserving land, and

Whereas, Paul Bruhn was an advocate for smart growth and the creation and enhancement of the downtown tax credit program, and

Whereas, in leading the Preservation Trust of Vermont, he was a mentor to numerous Vermonters seeking to improve the quality of life in their communities, and Paul Bruhn's greatly admired leadership at the Trust continued until his death on September 19, 2019, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family and colleagues of Paul Alan Bruhn, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Preservation Trust of Vermont, Colleen O'Neill, Christine Graham, and Kathleen Stankevich.