

No. R-83. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Brattleboro Food Co-op on its 50th anniversary and extending best future wishes.

(H.C.R.63)

Offered by Representatives Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, and Goodnow of Brattleboro

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim

Whereas, the Brattleboro Food Co-op was the brainchild of, among others, Lee Crowley, Jack Fredericks, Cliff Adler, Lynn Levine, Carl Hirth, Peter Stolle, Billy Fitzgerald, and Alex Gyori, and their initiative to start a small buying club has evolved into a community-owned cooperative food emporium, and

Whereas, the organizers' dream became a reality on February 20, 1975 when the Brattleboro Food Co-op opened to the public in a small garage located at 40 High Street in Brattleboro, a cramped facility measuring approximately 150–200 square feet, and

Whereas, the opening day's sales tallied \$600.00, a meager sum in comparison with the latest year's gross sales of nearly \$25.5 million, and

Whereas, in 1988, the Brattleboro Food Co-op moved into a structure at the rear of the current parking lot, and in 2012, the current beautiful four-floor building, which is a hub of activity at 2 Main Street in downtown Brattleboro, began serving the public, and

Whereas, renovated through a collaboration with the Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (the Trust) and Housing Vermont, the four-floor facility features a 14,580 square foot first-floor natural foods market with a deli, the Whetstone Café, which often welcomes live music; the organization's offices; a commissary kitchen; a cooking classroom; a conference room; a second-floor community room that is available for rental; and 24 Trust-owned apartments that occupy the top floors, and

Whereas, the Brattleboro Food Co-op contains the following departments: beer and wine; catering; cheese; deli, with Brattleboro's largest selection of eat-in and take-out food offerings; grocery; bulk food; meat and seafood; produce and floral, which supports local farmers and offers floral and plant choices year-round; and health and wellness, selling holistic products, and

Whereas, the Brattleboro Food Co-op is proud of its half-century serving Windham County residents, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Brattleboro Food Co-op on its 50th anniversary and extends best future wishes, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Brattleboro Food Co-op.