

No. R-118. Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation.

(S.C.R.4)

Offered by Senators Brennan, Beck, Collamore, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Weeks, Westman and Williams,

Offered by Representatives Austin of Colchester, Branagan, C. of Georgia, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Canfield of Fair Haven, Demar of Enosburgh, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Goslant of Northfield, Higley of Lowell, Howland of Rutland Town, Labor of Morgan, Laroche of Franklin, Lipsky of Stowe, Maguire of Rutland City, McCoy of Poultney, Morgan, L. of Milton, Nelson of Derby, Pinsonault of Dorset, Pritchard of Pawlet, Sibia of Dover and Tagliavia of Corinth,

Whereas, the administrative and financial structure that supports natural resource conservation efforts in the United States is often referred to as the American System of Conservation Funding, and the original source of its funds was the states' assessment of fees for recreational sporting licenses, and

Whereas, beyond those fees, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson) Act, chapter 899, 50 Stat. 917 (1937), as amended, and the Sport Fish Restoration (Federal Aid in Fish Restoration) (Fish Restoration and Projects (Dingell-Johnson)) Act, chapter 658, 64 Stat. 430 (1950), as amended, established new federal conservation funding, and

Whereas, these respective acts allocate funds from federal excise tax revenue on hunting equipment to finance wildlife natural resource restoration projects, and on revenue from excise taxes on sport fishing equipment and from tariffs imposed on fishing tackles and boating equipment for fishing restoration support, and

Whereas, among the fishing-related state beneficiaries are land acquisition and shelter construction costs, and in our region, the New England Fishery Resources Restoration Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-593, an amendment to the 1950 Sport Fish Restoration Act, provided for a study for the "timely and effective implementation of restoration plans and programs for Atlantic salmon and other fishery resources of selected river systems in New England," and the development of "an inventory of important fish and wildlife habitat and other natural areas of river basins in New England," *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorates the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, to the Director of the Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.