

**No. R-150. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Spirit of the ADA Award winners.**

(H.C.R.126)

Offered by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Bishop of Colchester, Bosch of Clarendon, Boutin of Barre City, Carris-Duncan of Whitingham, Cole of Hartford, Cooper of Pownal, Donahue of Northfield, Duke of Burlington, Eastes of Guilford, Garofano of Essex, Graning of Jericho, Maguire of Rutland City, McGill of Bridport, Micklus of Milton, Nielsen of Brandon, Noyes of Wolcott, Olson of Starksboro, Priestley of Bradford, White of Bethel, and Wood of Waterbury

*Whereas*, the State of Vermont is strongly committed to providing equal opportunities for all individuals regardless of disability, age, color, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation, and

*Whereas*, when Vermonters of all abilities are afforded the opportunity to contribute their personal gifts, skills, and talents to the workforce, there is an enduring benefit for all from individual, collective, and economic perspectives, and

*Whereas*, annually, the Governor's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities honors selected businesses and nonprofit organizations that epitomize the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act as recipients of the Spirit of the ADA Award, and

*Whereas*, the criteria for a Vermont business or nonprofit organization to be selected for this special award are creating an accessibility recruitment and hiring process, incorporating on-the-job accommodations for employees, offering accessible physical structures to ensure success for all employees, and implementing an overall employment strategy that includes the hiring of individuals with disabilities, and

*Whereas*, the 2024 Spirit of the ADA Award winners and their home communities are Worth Repeating (Saint Albans), Butterfly Bakery (Barre), Onion River Animal Hospital (Berlin), VINE Sanctuary (Springfield), Bradford Hannaford (Bradford), Club Demonstration Services (Colchester), Lamoille Valley Veterinary Services (Hyde Park), Shaw's Supermarket (Manchester Center), WheelPad L3C (Wilmington), Windsor County Youth Services (Proctorsville), and Rhino Foods (Burlington), and

*Whereas*, Rhino Foods was especially honored as the 2024 recipient of the David Sagi Memorial Spirit of the ADA Award, and

*Whereas*, each of these award recipients deserves special recognition for their active participation in the employment of Vermonters with disabilities, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2024 Spirit of the ADA Award winners, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each Spirit of the ADA Award recipient and to the Governor's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities.