

No. R-153. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society.

(H.C.R.129)

Offered by Representative Malay of Pittsford

Whereas, when considering the 19th- and early 20th-century highways and byways of Vermont, one conjures up the image of a covered bridge connecting two sides of a waterway or other traveling impediment within or between communities and even across state lines, and

Whereas, at their apex, Vermont was home to more than 500 covered bridges, but fires, floods, and the advancing age of these iconic and magnificent edifices have reduced their presence to fewer than 100, and

Whereas, although the number of covered bridges in Vermont will never return to its historic high point, the nonprofit and all-volunteer operated Vermont Covered Bridge Society, established in 2000, is dedicated to preserving those that still grace our communities, and

Whereas, the Vermont Covered Bridge Society has grown from just a few enthusiasts to over 300 members from both the United States and Canada, and its activities involve working directly with State agencies and local communities to preserve and restore covered bridges, and

Whereas, another aspect of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society's endeavors is maintaining a lively virtual presence, with a website including links to new stories; a picturesque tour of the State's existing covered bridges; a colorful exploration of the relatively recent phenomena of "romantic shelters" that serve diverse purposes ranging from entrances to businesses, beautifying a picnic area or playground, or, more practically, crossing short passages; plus other informative digital links, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society, *and be it further*

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