

No. R-173. House concurrent resolution honoring Steven D. Faccio of Strafford for his inspiring leadership as a conservation biologist.

(H.C.R.142)

Offered by Representatives Kimbell of Woodstock, Holcombe of Norwich, and Masland of Thetford

Offered by Senators Clarkson, Major, and White

Whereas, Steve Faccio has dedicated his life, both professionally and personally, to the protection of the natural environment and its lands, waters, and creatures, and

Whereas, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in biology, respectively, from Western Connecticut State University and Southern Connecticut State University, and

Whereas, upon completion of his academic studies, Steve Faccio wisely headed northward to Vermont, where he has resided to this day, and

Whereas, for 15 years (1992–2007), he worked as a conservation biologist at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, where his topics of interest were often ornithologically focused and included peregrine falcon nesting sites, loon habitat, the presence of the brown-headed cowbird in the Champlain Valley, and examinations of avian breeding and migration, and he developed a large oeuvre of publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals, popular magazines, and commissioned reports, and

Whereas, in 1994, Steve Faccio joined the Vermont Endangered Species Committee's Reptile and Amphibian Scientific Advisory Group, of which he remains an active member, and

Whereas, in 2002, he was a founding member of the Strafford Conservation Commission; served as its secretary for 11 years; and, after a brief hiatus, rejoined and has served continuously since 2015, and

Whereas, in 2005, Steve Faccio was a co-winner of the Wilson Ornithological Society's Edwards Prize, and

Whereas, in 2007, he embarked on a new professional adventure, cofounding and serving as the senior conservation biologist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, and a special accomplishment was creating the regularly consulted Vermont Vernal Pool Atlas, and

Whereas, after decades of an intellectually fulfilling and environmentally impactful career, Steve Faccio is concluding his role at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies but will no doubt remain involved in conservation-related projects, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Steven D. Faccio of Strafford for his inspiring leadership as a conservation biologist, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Steve Faccio and to the Vermont Center for Ecostudies.