

No. R-297. House concurrent resolution celebrating the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizing April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House.

(H.C.R.245)

Offered by Representatives Duke of Burlington, Austin of Colchester, Bishop of Colchester, Bluemle of Burlington, Brown of Richmond, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Cooper of Pownal, Dodge of Essex, Durfee of Shaftsbury, Goslant of Northfield, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Houghton of Essex Junction, James of Manchester, Keyser of Rutland City, Krasnow of South Burlington, Luneau of St. Albans City, Marcotte of Coventry, McCann of Montpelier, Nugent of South Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pezzo of Colchester, Priestley of Bradford, Rachelson of Burlington, Sibilia of Dover, Sweeney of Shelburne, Torre of Moretown, White of Bethel, and Wood of Waterbury

Offered by Senators Collamore, Gulick, Hardy, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, and Weeks

Whereas, Vermont is a world-class destination for outdoor recreation, dining, lodging, art, and history that attracts visitors and new residents, incentivizes Vermonters to stay, and creates business opportunities, and

Whereas, Vermont's visitor economy has a \$4.2 billion economic impact and employs more than 10 percent of Vermont's workforce, and

Whereas, in 2024, 16 million people visited Vermont, contributing an estimated \$293.5 million dollars in State and local taxes, and

Whereas, tourism and hospitality are two of the largest industries in Vermont, creating 31,780 jobs, and

Whereas, tourism and hospitality are vital to the sustainability of rural and urban communities alike, across all 14 counties, and

Whereas, meaningful representation and inclusion are essential to ensure Vermont is welcoming to individuals from all backgrounds so that they can experience the joy of visiting the State, and

Whereas, industry leaders who prioritize community values in their work and promote destination stewardship benefit Vermonters and the State's economy, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizes April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Chamber of Commerce and Ski Vermont.