

No. R-490. House concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont Energy Investment Corporation on its 25th anniversary.

(H.C.R.379)

Offered by: Representatives Klein of East Montpelier, Cheney of Norwich and Edwards of Brattleboro

Whereas, the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) was founded in 1986 by Beth Sachs and Blair Hamilton to promote and encourage the conservation of natural resources, and to reduce energy costs for consumers, especially low income consumers, and

Whereas, VEIC has been actively involved in helping design energy efficiency programs in the United States and worldwide, and

Whereas, several Vermont energy businesses and organizations, including the Energy Co-Op of Vermont, Renewable Energy Vermont, and the Vermont Energy Education Program, were established under the aegis of VEIC, and

Whereas, in the year 2000, VEIC competed successfully for the right to establish and operate Efficiency Vermont, the first statewide energy efficiency utility in the nation, and

Whereas, under VEIC's leadership, Efficiency Vermont has become the most effective program of its kind nationally and has won awards for its innovative work, and

Whereas, in 2007, VEIC established a 20-year goal of offsetting twice the amount of greenhouse gases projected to be emitted in Vermont in the year 2027, and

Whereas, this offsetting process is to occur through VEIC's investing in energy projects promoting efficiency and relying on renewable resources, and

Whereas, by 2010, VEIC's work at Efficiency Vermont had helped reduce carbon emissions by 5.1 tons, and

Whereas, in 2011, VEIC commenced operation of two large-scale energy efficiency programs based on the successful Efficiency Vermont model: Efficiency Smart, based in the Midwest, and the Sustainable Energy Utility, based in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, recognizing the increasing association between energy and transportation policy, VEIC established a transportation efficiency division, and

Whereas, VEIC was recognized as one of the "2011 Best Places to Work in Vermont," as well as one of Vermont's ten fastest-growing companies and now employs over 250 people in green jobs throughout Vermont and in New Jersey, Ohio, and Washington, D.C., now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Vermont Energy Investment Corporation on its 25th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation.