

No. R-98. House concurrent resolution designating March 12, 2019 as Vermont Lions Day at the State House.

(H.C.R.80)

Offered by: Representative Walz of Barre City

Whereas, Lions Clubs International traces its origin to a meeting that Dr. William Perry Woods organized in 1916, and the organization's mission evolved under the leadership of Melvin Jones, and

Whereas, the mission of Lions Clubs International is "to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs," and

Whereas, among the aims of Lions Clubs International are to organize service clubs that are united in bonds of friendship, "to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world," and "to encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward," and

Whereas, in 2019, over 200 nations are home to 47,000 Lions Clubs, and more than 1.3 million individuals are members, and

Whereas, ever since Helen Keller addressed a Lions Clubs International convention in 1925, the organization has devoted much of its attention to sight improvement programs and assisting the blind, and

Whereas, the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative is designed to combat measles, specifically in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mali, and Nigeria, and

Whereas, from 2014 through 2018, during Lions Clubs International's Centennial Service Challenge, a special focus was placed on five broad areas of endeavor: youth programs, environmental projects, vision services, hunger alleviation, and diabetes prevention and treatment, and the Clubs' efforts served over 248 million persons, and

Whereas, Vermont constitutes District 45 of Lions Clubs International and representatives of the district are visiting the State House today to share with members of the General Assembly and the public the organization's commendable activities, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 12, 2019 as Vermont Lions 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 Lions Clubs International headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois, and to the organization's District 45 Governor Elizabeth Fenwick.